



THE TIMES Tomorrow



Motherhood after 40

Professional women are deciding that career comes first when it comes to starting a family. For the older mother, life really does begin at forty...

Non-conformists Society's brilliant eccentrics

Nuts to meat Vegetarian cooking with variety

Trial sail America's Cup warm-up offshore in Perth

Portfolio

The £2,000 daily prize in The Times Portfolio competition was won yesterday by Mrs Sheila Ferbrache of Folkestone, Kent. Portfolio list, page 28; how to play, information service, back page.

New team in Haiti

Haiti's new Government, under General Henry Namphy was formally installed at a ceremony in the palace hurriedly vacated by ex-President Jean-Claude Duvalier last Friday. The country was promised that it would eventually become a democracy. Haiti freedom, page 5

Mandela hint

Mrs Winnie Mandela dampened speculation that her husband Nelson was about to be released as part of this week's expected East-West spy swap. But he could well be freed in the middle of this year, she said. Swap expected, page 5

Mulrooney ills

Only 17 months after winning the biggest electoral mandate in Canadian history, the Mr Brian Mulrooney's Conservative Government is in deep trouble, having stumbled from one mini-crisis to another. Page 8

Joint action

Joint efforts by a new state enterprise organization and the private sector to meet increased demand for domestic goods are proposed in the Labour Party's new industrial strategy. Page 2

Iran invades

Iran launched its biggest Gulf War offensive in a year and said its forces had reached the Iraqi west bank of the strategic Shatt al-Arab waterway. Page 5

Trident delay

The contract to build Britain's first Trident submarine may be delayed by about three months although that will not delay the overall programme. Page 2

Lower costs

Industry's material and fuel costs fell by 7.1 per cent in the 12 months to January, the sharpest fall for nearly 30 years. Page 17

Oxford's crew

Oxford's crew for this year's Boat Race will include the oldest man to row in the event. Page 25

York, the city of history, is looking to the future by attracting new businesses. A Special Report looks at its progress. Pages 22-23

Table with 4 columns: Home News, Parliament, Overseas, Arts, Science, Sports, Business, Court, Crosswords, Diaries, Law Report

Sogat fined and assets seized for contempt

By Michael Horsnell

Sequestration of the £17 million assets of the print union Sogat '82 was ordered in the High Court yesterday. Mr Justice Michael Davies made the order after hearing that the union had ignored a court injunction ordering it to halt the backing of News International's four national newspapers by members at wholesalers.

The union, 4,000 of whose members were dismissed last month after going on strike, was also fined £25,000.

In a hearing lasting just over two hours, the judge said Sogat was guilty of a flagrant contempt of the court's orders and had given no hint of altering its attitudes.

The National Graphical Association is to become the second print union to face proceedings for contempt in the dispute between the unions and Mr Rupert Murdoch over his new plant at Wapping, east London.

Mr Murdoch's News International will ask a High Court judge on Friday to punish the union for allegedly ignoring an injunction granted on January 28 to stop industrial action affecting production of The Times supplements at Northampton.

After describing the case for sequestration of Sogat's assets, brought by Mr Murdoch's News Group, Times Newspapers and News International, as "unanswerable", Mr Justice Davies agreed to the appointment of Ernst and Whinney, the London firm of chartered accountants, as sequestrators.

Sogat was not present or represented when Mr Michael Burton, QC asked for the sequestration order.

Miss Brenda Dean, its general secretary, said the union had decided not to attend on principle.

She said later that the union executive would meet to consider whether to pay the fine and added that Sogat had embarked on a perilous course which could soon "bring it to its knees".

Miss Dean described the court action as a "swinging attack" on the union and accused Mr Murdoch of trying to destroy it.

But she sent a personal letter to the court saying Sogat intended to discountenance by its absence or disrespect for the law.

Mr Burton said the four newspapers had obtained an injunction on January 27 requiring the union to withdraw instructions to members to back them.

The Sogat workers at the newspapers were dismissed after striking over a claim for lifetime employment, he said, but he agreed with the judge that the merits of the dispute were not of concern to the court.

Not knowing the assets of the 220,000-strong union, the judge said the fine was modest and something of "a shot in the dark".

After ordering the sequestration, Mr Justice Davies added that the measure he had taken might have been less draconian had Sogat shown regret for its breach of the injunction and an intention to obey the order.

The judge had been told by Mr Burton that if the newspapers did not appear there were potential losses of £71,000 a day for The Times, £362,000 for The Sunday Times, £470,000 a day for The Sun and £777,000 for the News of the World.

He gave the union 14 days to pay the fine and ordered it to pay the costs.

The duty of the sequestrators under the writ granted by the judge is to seize all the union's assets and to freeze them.

The only way for Sogat to regain control of them will be for it to purge its contempt by apologizing to the court and calling off the action which led it into contempt.

Miss Dean said after the hearing: "The law is so heavily loaded against trade unions and against working people that it is now a travesty of justice. We exist as a trade union to represent and defend our members and their families."

"They have been treated in a totally ruthless, heartless and callous way. They come first. Our members are more important than money."

Blacking move, page 2



Mr Neil Kinnock talking to residents in the Broadwater Farm Youth Association and Community Centre during his tour yesterday of the north London estate which was the scene of last year's riot. Labour tour, page 2

Three gain exclusive OM award

By Alan Hamilton

The Queen has appointed Graham Greene, the novelist, Sir Frank Whittle, the jet engine pioneer, and Professor Frederick Sanger, the molecular biologist, as members of the Order of Merit.

The order, founded by King Edward VII in 1902, is restricted to 24 holders at a time, and vacancies arise only when members die.

It is one of the few entirely non-political honours. And although it does not bring a knighthood, the exclusivity guarantees that the suffix, "OM", is just as highly prized.

Mr Greene, aged 81, and Professor Sanger, aged 67, already hold the order of the Companion of Honour, also in the personal gift of the Queen but with less exclusivity, allowing 65 members at a time. Sir Frank, aged 78, is a KBE and a Companion of the Order of the Bath.

Professor Sanger headed the Medical Research Council molecular biology laboratory at Cambridge. He won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1958 for his studies on the composition of proteins, and again in 1980 for his pioneering work on genetic engineering and the structure of DNA.

The Order of Merit has traditionally been used to recognize outstanding achievement in the arts and sciences. Other holders include: Henry Moore, Sir Frederick Ashton, Sir Michael Tippett, Lord Zuckerman and Professor Dorothy Hodgkin.

Sikorsky set for a close victory in Westland vote

By Patience Wheatcroft

The European consortium's tender offer for 20 per cent of Westland shares has failed.

The £15.5 million offer was intended to assure the consortium of sufficient votes to block the Westland board's plans to link with Sikorsky, the US company, and Fiat.

But hardly more than 10 per cent of shareholders are believed to have accepted the tender, which now lapses.

The future of the troubled helicopter company now depends on tomorrow's shareholders' meeting when the board's proposals will again be put to the vote.

Both the board and the opposing European consortium have almost equal numbers of votes pledged to them. But it seems likely that sufficient numbers of small shareholders may decide to vote in favour of the board to give it the simple majority it needs.

The failure of the tender offer is a blow to the consortium and its advisers, Lloyds Merchant Bank.

It was pitched at 130p a share and was intended to appeal to the small shareholders who had previously been unable to sell their Westland shares at the premium prices being offered to large institutional holders.

Some deals were done at prices above 150p a share, and are being looked at by the Stock Exchange as part of a wide-ranging inquiry into suggestions that a two-tier market had operated in Westland shares.

Mr David Horne, of Lloyds Merchant Bank, believes that a partial explanation for the failure may be the City rules which forbid any active marketing of a tender offer. "We could not even explain the offer to shareholders", he said.

The voting at the last Westland ballot, when the board required a 75 per cent majority to proceed with its Sikorsky deal, also showed that there was a tendency among small shareholders to support their board, chaired by Sir John Cuckney.

But Mr Horne said that after months of wrangling there might be a degree of apathy affecting Westland shareholders. This could be a vital factor in the vote, to be held at the Connaught Rooms in London.

Although the European consortium's tender offer has now officially lapsed, the consortium says that should the board's proposals fail, it plans to make another offer to buy the shares at 130p from those who had accepted the tender. This is intended to persuade those people not to vote for the board.

Lord Whitelaw, leader of the House of Lords, yesterday rejected an inquiry into the allegation by Mr Alan Bristow, the helicopter millionaire, that he was offered a knighthood by two peers (Philip Webster writes).

Lord Stallard, the Labour peer, had called on Lord Whitelaw to launch an investigation so that the suspicion which had fallen on peers could be lifted.

Labour votes to block militant

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

The Labour Party last night stepped up its fight against the Militant Tendency when it refused to endorse Mr Pat Wall, who had been selected by the constituency party at Bradford North as a parliamentary candidate.

In a move which infuriated the left it also set in hand action which could lead to the expulsion by the national executive committee of two supporters of the Militant Tendency elected to the party's Welsh executive.

They would be the first expulsions initiated from party headquarters since the five members of the Militant editorial board were thrown out three years ago.

The decision to block Mr Wall came at a stormy meeting of Labour's organization committee, chaired by Mr Kenneth Curle and Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, right-wing members of the executive, argued that Mr Wall should not be endorsed until his alleged links with Militant had been investigated.

They proposed instead that Mr Wall should be called before a meeting of the committee to answer questions. Despite opposition from Mr Tony Benn, Mr Eric Heffer and Mr Dennis Skinner, the move was carried by nine votes to six. It was agreed that Mr Wall should be interviewed "without prejudice to his subsequent endorsement".

The two Welsh executive members will be questioned further and are likely to appear before the full executive.

King Tut's treasurer's tomb sets hearts racing

From Alice Brinton Cairo

A ten-year search by an archaeologist from London University and his Dutch partner ended triumphantly on Saturday when they tipped into the tomb of Maya, treasurer to the legendary boy king Tutankhamun.

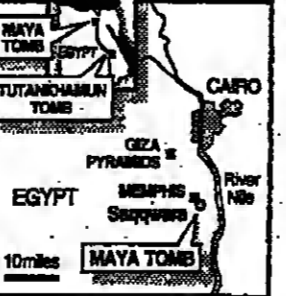
Dr Geoffrey Martin of University College, London and Dr Jacques Van Dijk, of the Leyden Museum, have been excavating since 1975 at a site at the ancient necropolis of Saqqara, 25 miles south west of Cairo.

Yesterday, a jubilant Dr Martin described how the two archaeologists made their discovery, believed to be the most important find since 1922, when Howard Carter broke into Tutankhamun's tomb itself.

Dr Martin explained on Sunday at the site how he and Dr Van Dijk had decided they had decided to explore about eight metres further down.

"We lowered a rope ladder and with great difficulty clambered down. At the bottom was a door which we went through and down a winding staircase. We were exceedingly astonished to find ourselves in an anteroom.

"We had an electric cable and thus a good light with us. It was an astonishing sight. In front of us were the most wonderful reliefs, in pristine condition and inscriptions, and my colleague looked across at them and said: 'My God, it's Maya' and we knew at last that we were in the tomb of a very well known personality of Tutankhamun's reign."



Maya, Tutankhamun's treasurer and confidant

one Horemheb, a general who became king a few years after Tutankhamun's death.

But while the Horemheb discovery, which has been excavated and restored, was important, the real find was without doubt the tomb of Maya and Merit.

Dr Martin acknowledges that he and Dr Van Dijk were only able to catch a glimpse, but that had been enough to set their hearts racing.

"The reliefs of Maya and Merit are large-scale and done in gold and yellow colour comparable to those in the royal tombs at Thebes," said Dr Martin. "We expect to find a lot more reliefs all in good condition, and there is no telling how big the tomb is or how deep it goes."

The two archaeologists are part of an Anglo-Dutch consortium working with the Egypt Exploration Society, in collaboration with the Egyptian Antiquities Organization.

Tories stick by their leader

From Tony Bevis

Downing Street sources yesterday attempted to damp down speculation about a Conservative leadership challenge by insisting that Mrs Thatcher was determined to fight on for another five years.

It was also said that she was "much too old to change"; she has now reached the age of 60.

Senior party sources said there would be no change of style - Mrs Thatcher was not so much the iron lady but the steel lady and would go to the next elections with the resolute approach that had her scoring so strongly in the 1983 polls.

But in spite of the concerted put-down of any leadership challenge, it was volunteered by high-level party sources that the Government looked "steady", that MPs were "slightly nervous and emotional" and that the party itself was "unsettled".

There was also some diversions in the Government's response to the weekend spate of speeches and statements from senior ministers and Mr Michael Heseltine about the future direction of party policy and presentation.

Downing Street sources conceded there might be a bit of an argument with Mr John Biffen, the leader of the Commons, about the presentation of Government policies following the publication of a constituency letter which was seen as a direct attack on Mr Norman Tebbit's confrontational style.

But Mr Tebbit, chairman of the Conservative Party, preferred to believe that Mr Biffen had been attacking Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader of the Labour Party.

Mr Tebbit said on the BBC radio World at One programme: "It's a very good letter and I hope that Neil Kinnock and his colleagues take notice of it and get away from their rather raucous and disagreeable style of politics."

Commenting on Mr Peter Walker's weekend call for "radical rethinking" of Government policy, Mr Tebbit said pointedly: "He's a member of the Cabinet and we share collective responsibility together."

Perhaps as a sign that he recognizes that tension is increasing, Mr Marcos said the counts of both the National Movement for Free Elections and the Government could continue. Legally, both should have stopped once Parliament sat as a vote-monitoring body.

Mrs Aquino, who is now maintaining a dignified silence, has not been seen in Manila since election day. Her spokesman, Mr Rene Sagnisag, said that if the election had been honest she would have won by 74 per cent.

He said the Aquino group was waiting to see the outcome of Parliament's check. "As everyone knows, every institution in this country has been perverted. This is a battle between a group which is armed to the teeth and the people who are armed only with their teeth."

Thirty young women who walked out of the computer centre of the state-run National Commission on Elections on Sunday night, claiming that the government count was fraudulent, left the safety of a church early yesterday and went into hiding.

Senator Richard Lugar, chairman of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, flew home yesterday with his group of observers, saying he would report on the election abuses to President Reagan.

Count chaos, page 5

Marcos bid to block Aquino

From David Watts Manila

President Marcos of the Philippines has set in motion the legal process to override Mrs Corason Aquino's claim that she has won the presidential election.

The Philippines Parliament went into session last night to check election returns and declare the winner. Since Mr Marcos has a majority, he can legally confirm his claim to have been re-elected.

As Mrs Aquino's supporters fanned a motorcycle headed for Parliament for an all-night vigil in case of further attempts to tamper with incoming returns, a young man was shot and killed.

Yesterday's fraud allegations included 18 "ghost" precincts in Leyte, the home province of the President's wife, Mrs Imelda Marcos.

Mr Marcos maintains that he is winning by between 700,000 and one million votes. Mrs Aquino's campaign office says she has 7.9 million votes, against 7.43 million for Mr Marcos. It says Marcos workers are holding back results in areas where he is strongest so they can adjust the figures later to overtake Mrs Aquino's strength.

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Count chaos, page 5

Barratt Timeshare Holiday Resorts advertisement with contact information and details of offers.

Labour job strategy seeks state links with private sector

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

A new state enterprise organization empowered to enter into joint ventures with the private sector was proposed yesterday as one of the central features of the industrial strategy to be pursued by a Labour government.

Mr John Smith, Labour's chief spokesman on trade and industry, in a speech outlining the policy, accepted the need for private sector profit levels to be increased as part of the effort to increase investment by raising demand for domestic manufactured goods.

The organization, which Mr Smith suggested could be called British Enterprise, would be aimed at providing a new and flexible form of state intervention in the industrial economy and would be similar in concept to the Industrial Reorganization Corporation of the first Wilson Government and the National Enterprise Board of later years.

The new enterprise, Mr Smith said, would be organized and funded by government, able to start industrial ventures on its own, enter joint ventures with the private sector and act as a spur to innovation.

It was a form of public ownership and intervention "which could command wide support within industry as well as be an effective agent in the planning of our national industrial recovery."

TUC calls for £6bn package

TUC leaders urged the Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday to adopt a £6 billion Budget package aimed at raising output and cutting unemployment.

But the Prime Minister has hinted that any such give away is likely to take the form of tax cuts for the low paid.

Top earners had done well out of tax concessions under this Government, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said. Now it was time to help the lower paid.

Her comments, published in *CBI News*, came on the day when the TUC presented its Budget proposals to the Chancellor.

The TUC is calling for more government investment in services such as roads, hospitals and schools.

Labour's strategy, which has been criticized by the left as paying too much heed to the requirements of private industry, depends on a strong working relationship between all sides of industry and the Government, according to Mr Smith, who was speaking at Sussex University.

He said that the present fashion of takeovers could not be regarded as a solution to industry's problems or a substitute for industrial policy. "With the current free-

for-all, the battle between the private sector barons makes money for the advertising agencies and the City finance houses who rival each other with increased profits won through the game of 'Who Dares Merge'.

Mr Smith said that industry must be revived to allow a resumption of economic growth "at socially acceptable levels of unemployment and output". The overriding requirement in raising the volume of private sector investment was raising demand for domestic manufactured goods.

He continued: "Although the public sector may itself embark upon a programme, for example, of public works projects, it is the private sector which must provide the bulk of the investment effort required."

Private sector investment would not be forthcoming "without the prospect of a period of sustained buoyant demand". Ensuring high demand by taking up the slack in industrial capacity, and in consequence raising profit margins, was a necessary requirement of industrial revival.

Mr Smith said there was no hope of recovery unless there was a new and sustained commitment to education and training. "Our aim—and it is a perfectly possible one—should be within, say, a 10-year period to attain the best trained and educated workforce and management in Western Europe."



A comforting arm for Miss Brenda Dean, general secretary of Sogat '82, after a High Court decision to order the sequestration of the union's £17 million assets and to impose a fine of £25,000.

Wider use of sequestration

By our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Writs of sequestration, a power used by courts as a last resort when previous orders have been deliberately flouted, are becoming increasingly common in industrial disputes.

They have been used several times in the past few years, most notably during the miners' dispute in 1984, when sequestrators were first appointed to seize the assets of the South Wales miners' union and subsequently to seize the assets of the National Union of Mineworkers.

A writ of sequestration is a

court order in the form of a writ to commissioners of sequestration, usually four, who are instructed to locate and seize either all or part of the property of the person or body in contempt of court.

Such writs are issued when a person or body has failed to comply with a court order and therefore is in contempt of court; and then, as with the miners, failed to pay the fine ordered as a penalty for that contempt.

The sequestrators, who are officers of the court and accountable to the court, have wide powers at their

disposal to trace and hold assets. If anyone hinders the sequestrators in their attempts to locate and seize assets, or assists the person or body in contempt in hiding the assets, then he or she is also in contempt of court.

The sequestrators can make extensive inquiries in carrying out their task and even obtain information from banks and auditors received in confidence. They are also entitled to make inquiries to obtain information relating to any efforts to move assets to avoid the effect of the writ.

Despite the wide powers,

the task of the sequestrators in the miners' dispute was long and complex because of the actions of the union in moving assets abroad. Ultimately, the costs of such preventive action will fall on the union, however, and the courts have shown they take a dim view of such attempts to flout court orders.

Before the miners' dispute sequestration was used in the National Graphical Association dispute with Mr Eddie Shah's Messenger group; and, before that, in 1964 in a dispute involving the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

Bentley's heroin sentence

Kitty Bentley, aged 30, daughter of the Marchioness of Bute and estranged wife of the businessman Mr John Bentley, was put on probation for two years yesterday at Knightsbridge Crown Court after admitting possessing heroin.

Judge Bowen said that her decline into the world of drugs presented the "familiar catalogue of misery, unhappiness and despair."

A former Lloyd's underwriter, Simon Pearl, aged 35, who had admitted giving his home in Addison Road, Notting Hill, west London, to be used in the supply of heroin and supplying heroin, was jailed for a year.

Steven Rice, aged 32, unemployed, was jailed for three years after he admitted six drugs charges, including the supply of heroin.

Woman's sex assault denial

A former Gwent County Council social worker yesterday denied indecently assaulting a boy, aged 14, at her home last year.

Lynda Shirley Swindell, aged 29, of Marywill Lane, Caswell, Swansea, is facing trial at Cardiff Crown Court, which yesterday heard legal submissions. The case continues today.

Correction

Market shares of 18.4 per cent for Austin Rover and 17.2 per cent for General Motors mentioned in our report on Saturday referred to new car sales as a whole in January and not to the fleet car sector as suggested.

Lawyers in legal aid wrangle

Bar chooses 'dornish' QC

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Mr Sydney Kenridge, QC, who has just won the highest accolade from his colleagues by being their choice as advocate in the Bar's legal action against the Lord Chancellor, is widely liked and held to be "extremely popular with judges".

The South Africa-trained lawyer, who has been the leading commercial silk at the South African Bar for the past 20 years, has established a reputation as one of the best and most senior QCs in this country.

Mr Kenridge, aged 62, has won fame for representing Mrs Winnie Mandela, the anti-apartheid campaigner in South Africa last month; the family of Steve Biko at the inquest into his death; and *The Guardian* in the Sarah Tisdall case.

He has a large commercial practice and is based in the same Temple chambers as the chairman of the Bar, Mr Robert Alexander, QC.

Mr Kenridge was called to the Bar here in 1977, and rapidly took silk in 1984, a sign of the esteem in which judges held him, according to

Owen launches party policy for the decade

By Our Political Staff

Dr David Owen, the Social Democratic Party Leader, launched a synopsis of his party's policies yesterday which will be used to help identify Alliance priorities for the next decade.

I hope this marks the end of what was always a canard—that the SDP doesn't have policies. A much better criticism of us

would be that we have too many policies," he said.

The document, *The Only Way to a Fairer Britain*, will, with Liberal Party papers, be put to a joint policy group which is preparing the priorities for the 1990s.

The resulting strategy, due to be completed by July, will form the basis of an Alliance programme for government.

Mr Alexander, himself widely acknowledged to be at the top of his profession, added that it was obviously not appropriate that he should argue the case himself, as lawyers should not "appear in their own cause".

Mr Kenridge, a popular man of short stature, is known for his slow, deliberate, almost "dornish" style of advocacy, which is highly successful in its impact.

Although a commercial specialist, Mr Kenridge has extremely wide experience and his time is now divided equally between London and work in South Africa, the Far East and the United States.

He is now lecturing in the United States and is to return especially to take the main hearing of the Bar's action for a judicial review of the Lord Chancellor's decision to limit the legal aid pay rise to 5 per cent for inflation.

The team which the Bar has appointed with Mr Kenridge is Mr Tom Morris, QC, Mr Nicholas Underhill, and Mr George Leggett.

Leading article, page 13

Clergy hopes for schools

Church leaders yesterday emerged from a meeting with the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, hopeful that the deadlock in the 19-month Scottish teachers' dispute could be broken.

But the churchmen, two from the Roman Catholic Church and two from the Church of Scotland, admitted that their optimism was based more on the tone of the meeting with the Secretary of State than on any sign of a government concession.

Plea for bypass repayment

By Stephen Goodwin

Conservationists are appealing to the Parliamentary Ombudsman against what they regard as foul play by the Department of Transport over the Okehampton bypass.

A coalition of six national amenities bodies wants back the £50,000 it spent taking its case to a joint committee of MPs and peers last year.

Although the committee favoured after a 15-day inquiry, the Government created a constitutional precedent by over-ruling its decision and forcing through a Bill last December confirming a route which cuts across a corner of Dartmoor National Park.

The bypass will carry the A30 from Exeter to Cornwall around the Okehampton bottleneck.

Miss Kate Ashbrook, secretary of the Open Spaces Society, which led the bypass fight, said: "We spent £50,000 preparing and presenting our case because we understood that the Government would stick to the committee's findings."

She said: "The Okehampton experience will deter voluntary bodies from using the special parliamentary procedure which was intended to protect the interests of the public."

The money was raised by groups including the Council for the Protection of Rural England, Friends of the Earth, the Ramblers' Association, Dartmoor Preservation Society and Transport 2000.

Dr David Clark, Labour's spokesman on conservation and chairman of the Open Spaces Society, has submitted the complaint to the Parliamentary Ombudsman.

FitzGerald defies Unionists

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Dr Garret FitzGerald predicted yesterday that the Anglo-Irish agreement would not be brought down by Unionist opposition.

The Irish Republic's Prime Minister told listeners to a Northern Ireland radio phone-in programme that the British and Irish governments would not be prevented from attempting to achieve peace and stability by those opposed to giving the republic a consultative role in the North.

"The purpose of the agreement is clear. The two governments will pursue it. He said it would not be satisfied, as Unionists are demanding, to allow discussions on finding an internal administration for the province."

Dr FitzGerald said he would rather have negotiated the agreement with the province's political leaders. But the two governments had been forced to act. Every

attempt to bring about a settlement since 1972 had failed.

He criticized Unionist leaders for creating a "cloud of propaganda" which obscured the purpose of the agreement. They had made statements which were factually and totally inaccurate and had totally misled many people.

Dr FitzGerald faced questions from several callers, but when Mr Sam Duddy, of the "loyalist" par. military Ulster Defence Association, tried to put a question, he said: "I am sorry, if he is from the UDA, I will not speak to anybody from any organization which is involved in or associated with violence."

The broadcast came at a time when Dr FitzGerald's Fine Gael party is trailing behind the country's newest political party in the opinion polls.

A poll published in yesterday's *Irish Times* gives

the Progressive Democrats, formed by Mr Desmond O'Malley, 25 per cent of the vote. Fine Gael 23 per cent and Fianna Fail 42 per cent and the Labour Party 4 per cent.

The Government is to take powers to allow it to send in commissioners to run district councils in Northern Ireland in the event of a breakdown in services.

Emergency legislation will be introduced tomorrow to ensure that if any of the 18 Unionist-controlled councils fail to carry out their functions, the Government will be able to suspend them immediately.

Airport flood

A main baggage and customs area at Heathrow airport was cleared of passengers yesterday after a water pipe burst, causing extensive flooding. Several flights were diverted.

Kinnock denies rift over riot

By Patricia Clough

Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Bernie Grant, the militant leader of Haringey Council, sought to play down their differences yesterday as the Labour leader toured Broadwater Farm Estate, the scene of riots last autumn in which a policeman was killed.

But Mr Kinnock, who had openly censured Mr Grant for blaming the police for the riots and saying they had got a "bloody good hiding", did not appear with Mr Grant in public and the two held separate press conferences.

Mr Grant is the prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Tottenham.

Mr Kinnock briefly visited medical police and residents and visited a nursery school class. He said later that Mr Grant's presence had not been an embarrassment and that there were no "no-go areas" in the Labour Party.

Mr Grant's outburst had been "one set of remarks made in particularly fraught, tense and horrific circumstances". His condemnation of the violence had not been given equal prominence. Mr Kinnock said, Labour was "not an anti-police party, we are an anti-crime party."

A spokeswoman for Mr Kinnock said Mr Grant had told the Labour leader he

regretted what had happened, and hoped it was the end of the matter.

Mr Grant said afterwards that his relations with Mr Kinnock were "very good". They differed on some issues, such as black sections—"It would be strange indeed if I did not"—but there was little difference in their views on the failure of the Conservatives to provide necessary resources for the area.

He said: "I have never been anti-police. My view is that there is a police force and I would like to turn it into a police service for the needs of the community instead of forcing themselves on it. I will criticize the police if they act in a racist or sexist manner."

Remand on PC charge

Mark Braithwaite, aged 20, who is charged with murdering Police Constable Keith Blacklock during the Tottenham riot last October, was remanded in custody until February 26 by Tottenham magistrates yesterday.

Mr Braithwaite, unemployed, of Islington, is also charged with making an affray and causing a riot.

Hurd condemns attack on youths

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The case of the Metropolitan Police officers who assaulted five youths, two of whom needed hospital treatment, was no help to the efforts of Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, and himself to build up the standing of the police in the community, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said yesterday in a television interview.

Many people were free who had committed crime but against whom evidence could not be found. The rule of law meant that guilt had to be proved and in the case of the five boys evidence was not forthcoming.

Mr Hurd was commenting on a meeting he and Sir Kenneth had with three London local authority associations at which the case was discussed. The attack by unidentified police officers has been described as disgraceful by the Police Complaints Authority and the case has aroused wide concern.

The assault, at Holloway, north London, two and a half years ago, was before the Police Complaints Authority had been established to supervise investigations from the beginning, Mr Hurd said.

In the Holloway case, the old Police Complaints Board

and the Director of Public Prosecutions came to the conclusion that there was no evidence for a prosecution or disciplinary action.

Sir Kenneth set out during the meeting his main aims for the coming year: the reduction of criminal opportunity, the enhanced detection of specified serious offences, such as burglary, and robbery; an attack on organized crime; more support for victims of crime; and greater effectiveness in the prevention and policing of public disorder.

Mr Hurd called on local authorities to give the police their full support in crime prevention which, he said, should be regarded as a non-political matter.

He and Sir Kenneth met the London Borough Association, the Outer London Districts Metropolitan Police Consultative Association, and the Association of London Authorities.

400,000 cars a year are 'clocked', says consumer chief

By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

A leading consumer protection official said yesterday that with up to 400,000 cars a year being sold with "clocked" mileometers the Government should take immediate action to introduce tough new laws to end this and other widespread frauds.

Mr Bob Wright, Chief Consumer Protection Officer for South Yorkshire, said interference with mileometers was costing motorists an

estimated £100 million a year because they were paying too much for cars with huge mileages.

His office yesterday received complaints about two Vauxhall Cavaliers with mileage readings of 22,880 and 21,000 which were reliably reported to have covered 72,990 and 66,000 miles.

Mr Wright said a recent check by consumer officials from six metropolitan councils found that one in 12 second-hand cars on sale

were unroadworthy.

An investigation of service costs showed that half the motorists interviewed paid more than the manufacturers recommended prices. Some paid three times as much for identical work on identical cars.

Mr Wright said that codes of practice were not working and should be replaced by tough new legislation, including the licensing of garages and stronger legal powers for consumer officials.

His call will almost certainly be backed by consumer authorities when they meet for their annual congress in Newcastle upon Tyne in April.

Mr Philip Stein, of the Motor Agents Association, said: "Some of these claims look highly dubious. We have been invited to attend the Consumer Congress next month as observers and we would like to see someone produce the evidence support-

ing, for instance, the claim that 30 per cent of used cars sold here have been 'clocked'.

"We should also like to see the motor trade represented on the working panel which has been looking at these complaints. In that way it would seem less like a kangaroo court. A sensible solution and one we would back is for a simple code of practice to be drawn up for the trade and backed by the courts."

Chine to im... educat...

Four... 1986

Two men accused of pick... line offences at the News International plant in Wapping on Saturday were remanded on bail until March 7 by Thames magistrates yesterday to seek legal advice.

Mr Roger Connor, the magistrate, refused a condition of bail that the men should stay away from the plant.

A secret deal between eight newspaper group managers and their union, the NGA, that enabled them to work during a strike over new technology, was alleged yesterday at an industrial tribunal when 126 print workers claimed unfair dismissal from the Kent Messenger Group.

They kept their jobs when all of the company's other NGA members were dismissed.

The Progressive Democrats, formed by Mr Desmond O'Malley, 25 per cent of the vote. Fine Gael 23 per cent and Fianna Fail 42 per cent and the Labour Party 4 per cent.

The Government is to take powers to allow it to send in commissioners to run district councils in Northern Ireland in the event of a breakdown in services.

Emergency legislation will be introduced tomorrow to ensure that if any of the 18 Unionist-controlled councils fail to carry out their functions, the Government will be able to suspend them immediately.

A main baggage and customs area at Heathrow airport was cleared of passengers yesterday after a water pipe burst, causing extensive flooding. Several flights were diverted.

Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Bernie Grant, the militant leader of Haringey Council, sought to play down their differences yesterday as the Labour leader toured Broadwater Farm Estate, the scene of riots last autumn in which a policeman was killed.

But Mr Kinnock, who had openly censured Mr Grant for blaming the police for the riots and saying they had got a "bloody good hiding", did not appear with Mr Grant in public and the two held separate press conferences.

Mr Grant is the prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Tottenham.

Mr Kinnock briefly visited medical police and residents and visited a nursery school class. He said later that Mr Grant's presence had not been an embarrassment and that there were no "no-go areas" in the Labour Party.

Mr Grant's outburst had been "one set of remarks made in particularly fraught, tense and horrific circumstances". His condemnation of the violence had not been given equal prominence. Mr Kinnock said, Labour was "not an anti-police party, we are an anti-crime party."

A spokeswoman for Mr Kinnock said Mr Grant had told the Labour leader he

regretted what had happened, and hoped it was the end of the matter.

Mr Grant said afterwards that his relations with Mr Kinnock were "very good". They differed on some issues, such as black sections—"It would be strange indeed if I did not"—but there was little difference in their views on the failure of the Conservatives to provide necessary resources for the area.

He said: "I have never been anti-police. My view is that there is a police force and I would like to turn it into a police service for the needs of the community instead of forcing themselves on it. I will criticize the police if they act in a racist or sexist manner."

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'Child ombudsman' to investigate state education grievances

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Britain's biggest education authority is planning to set up a "children's ombudsman" to investigate complaints by pupils and parents.

The proposal, to be included in the Labour Party manifesto for the Inner London Education Authority (Ilea) elections in May, is intended to improve education accountability. It will be regarded with horror by officers and head teachers, particularly as it may be taken up by other authorities.

An Ilea official said: "At the moment, if parents or children wish to complain it's an incredibly difficult procedure to go through, as it is in most other authorities."

The scheme, which is expected to be implemented before the start of the next school year, could cover school discipline where a parent or pupil felt the rules had not been followed, or were unfair. It could also apply to opportunities to study a particular subject.

It is perhaps no coincidence that the SDP/Liberal Alliance will announce tomorrow that its election manifesto contains the appointment of an Ilea "complaints officer" or ombudsman, along the lines of the local government ombudsman.

The Alliance envisages that the ombudsman would have the power to investigate complaints, obtain information from education officers and publish findings.

An Alliance spokesman said: "We believe that for the most part the education bureaucracy in Ilea does genuinely attempt to make itself accessible and helpful to parents."

"But there are times when parents feel shut out and frustrated by the system and need an independent outsider to help them."

The Ilea spokesman said the idea would not threaten the power of head teachers.

● The executive of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association has decided to ratify the pay deal which is expected to end the teachers' pay dispute.

But AMMA members will continue to work to rule, refusing to perform out-of-school activities and to cover for absent colleagues, until the deal is ratified as expected by the full Burnham Committee on February 28.

The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service agreement gives teachers a pay rise of 6.9 per cent, rising to 8.5 per cent by the end of March. It also establishes a framework for negotiating a new salary structure.

● Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday that the education welfare service was out an extension of personal social services but had, as an essential function, the promotion of the important educational objective of regular school attendance.

Four short terms urged for schools

By Our Education Correspondent

Rearranging the school year to give four shorter terms instead of the present three terms would bring educational benefits to children, a consultative document published by the Association of County Councils says.

Proposals to reform the school year are gaining support in education circles, and are supported by many parents and pupils. The association document suggests four terms of about ten weeks with an examination season running from mid-April to May, but says that each local education authority could be left to determine its school year.

The school term now lasts for 11 to 15 weeks, there are three half-term holidays of up to a week and three longer holidays at Christmas, Easter and in the summer.

The proposals for change are that children should get four equal periods of holiday, with two summer breaks, in early and late summer.

That would avoid over-long breaks away from school and half-term breaks which disrupt schooling without giving proper rest, the document says. More continuity of learning would result and the shorter terms of more even lengths should lead to better pupil performance.

It would be easier for summer-born children to gain admission to the infant school because there would be four rather than three opportunities each year for children to be admitted.



The Scottish runner Linsey Macdonald was swept off her feet yesterday by the Russian Olympic wrestler, Anatoli Kolesov, at the launch in London of the Goodwill Games. The games, to be held every four years, are the idea of Mr Ted Turner, the American broadcasting chief. The inaugural meeting will be in Moscow in July.

Joan Collins settlement

Joan Collins, the actress, and her partners in a lawsuit received £147,233 on account yesterday, without having to attend the High Court in London for their contract dispute with Brent Walker, the film group.

Miss Collins, aged 52, had claimed damages for alleged fraud, conspiracy and breach of contract over royalty payments from *The Stud*, the 1978 film which revived her career.

As the action was about to start in court yesterday, Brent Walker made Miss Collins and her co-plaintiffs an offer of settlement—a £147,233 interim payment and an independent account of the profits from the film to determine how much more is due. It agreed to pay the accountants' bill up to £40,000.

Miss Collins's side accepted the offer and withdrew its allegation of fraud and conspiracy.

The actress was paid a reported £14,500 for her role in *The Stud*. She now receives £50,000 an episode for playing Alexis in the television series *Dynasty*. That contract is said to be worth £3 million.

The Stud, based on the novel by Jackie Collins, the actress's sister, cost an estimated £300,000 to make but took millions.

In 1977 Miss Collins, Mr Ron Kass, then her husband, and Jackie Collins agreed to make *The Stud* with Brent Walker, Mr George Carman, QC, counsel for Miss Collins, told the court yesterday.

The company, which was run by Mr George Walker, the former boxer, arranged finance and distribution.

Later, Mr Quentin Masters, who directed *The Stud*, became party to the agreement to share in the exploitation of the film.

But by 1980, "anxieties arose about the promptness and detail" of payments to Miss Collins and her partners, Mr Carman said.

Shopman gets life for 'monstrous' murder of girl

David Adams, a toyshop owner, was jailed for life by Winchester Crown Court yesterday for what a judge described as the "monstrous" killing of a girl aged nine.

Adams, aged 37, of Ashley Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, pleaded guilty to murdering Claire Slagg in his shop last September.

Mr Roger Titheridge, QC, for the prosecution, said the body of the girl, who lived at Layton Road near by, had been found trussed and folded in a plastic bag inside a box which had contained a child's pedal car.

The prosecution said pornographic magazines and videos had been found in the shop, with photographs, apparently taken by Adams from the shop, of women passing by in the street.

The court was told that Adams's wife had just given birth to a girl.

Judge Stuart-Smith, who did not order a minimum sentence, said: "Everyone in this court who has heard the facts of this monstrous crime must be sickened and revolted by what they have heard."

"Having seen some of the literature, if that is the proper word for it, found in your possession and read the description of others, it seems to me not improbable it had an effect on your mind."

Mr Roger Backhouse, QC, for the defence, said Adams had got drunk the night before the murder.

Adams was said to have strangled the girl with a five-foot strip of blue cloth which he wrapped twice around her neck and then knotted.

Adams's wife, Linda, aged 34, four months pregnant at the time of the killing, was cooking Sunday lunch to their flat when her husband struck.

Mrs Adams thought he was working on the shop's window display and had no idea he was responsible for the girl's disappearance.

She was distraught when told by detectives and left next day to stay with her parents in London, taking their son, aged three.

Detectives discovered that in 1968, before Adams was married, he had been jailed for four years for attempted rape.

Derby death 'accident'

The suffragette who threw herself under King Edward VII's horse during the 1913 Derby at Epsom did not end her life in suicide, it was, according to new evidence, an accident.

A collection of Emily Davidson's possessions recently found in a Sussex attic contains evidence to show how the inquest jury reached its verdict of death by misadventure.

The three key items are a pass for a suffragette rally later that day, which suggests that she planned to attend; a race card which shows she had been betting; and a return train ticket to Victoria.

Miss Davidson had suffragette flags pinned inside her coat, and it now appears that she merely intended to conduct her own brief demonstration under the gaze of the King's binoculars.

Mr Richard Pankhurst, son of the suffragette, Sylvia Pankhurst, unearthed the evidence at the home of Mrs Ruth Yates in Rye, Sussex.

Prayers of rape victim, 73

A "deeply religious" widow, aged 73, recited prayers as she was being raped by an intruder, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The woman, who was at 6 am to find Michael Collins standing over her bed. He stole £10 from her handbag and, after raping her, said that he would return and stab her to death if she told the police, Mr Jeremy Carter-Manning, for the prosecution, said.

Collins, aged 23, unemployed, of Chadwick Road, Harlesden, north-west London, was jailed for seven years for raping the grandmother after mixing drugs with drink at a party. He admitted the offence.

Collins told his victim afterwards: "A black man raping a white woman—I will get three years for this." But Judge Thomas Pigot, the Common Sergeant said Collins was wrong on two counts: "Whatever nationality, whether black or white, you will be dealt with in the same way by these courts."

"Secondly, if anyone harbours the delusion that three years is an appropriate and proper sentence for an offence of this gravity they are wrong."

Blandford seeks drug cure

Lord Blandford, heir to the £50million Blenheim estate, will go straight to a drug dependency centre if he is detained on Friday from Bletchley Prison, Marylebone Magistrates' Court was told yesterday.

Blandford, aged 30, son of the 11th Duke of Marlborough, is charged with four others with conspiracy to supply cocaine.

Mr James Rankin, counsel for Blandford, said bail had been granted at a High Court hearing but, because of another matter, his client was in custody. However, Blandford expected to be released on Friday.

The magistrate, Mr Geoffrey Noel, extended bail of £10,000, subject to Blandford's living at the drug dependency clinic, Farm Place, in Surrey.

George Viallakis, aged 35, of Lower Sloane Street, Chelsea, south-west London, and Lawrence Zephyr, aged 53, of Ashmore Road, Maida Vale, west London, were remanded in custody until February 24.

Angelos Savvides, aged 37, and Michale Soszynski, aged 36, were remanded on bail of £1,500 each until February 17.

All five are charged with conspiring to contravene the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971.

Airedale breeder's warning

Airedale breeders are bracing themselves for a fashion craze after Ginger Xmas Carol, also known as Emma, became supreme champion at Crafts Dog Show.

"A rush on Airedales would be disastrous for the breed. They need specialist attention and are certainly not suitable for high-rise flat living," Mrs Dorothy Hanks, an Airedale exhibitor and breeder, said at her kennels in Beckenham, Kent, yesterday.

Like poodles, Airedales, known as the "king of terriers", do not moult and need grooming and trimming to keep their tan and black coats in condition.

Mrs Hanks, whose Airedale, Terracourt Playful, is also a champion, said that people not used to handling terriers might abandon them because of the special attention they need.

Ginger Xmas Carol's success came 25 years after Riverina Tweedshair became the first Airedale to be supreme champion at Crafts in 1961.

There are more than 1,400 registered Airedales in Britain, according to the Kennel Club of Great Britain. Many are exported.

The breed's popularity has risen and fallen since it was first recognized by the Kennel Club in the 1880s. The dog is thought to have developed through a cross between an otter hound and an Old English terrier. Other unknown breeds also contributed.

Standing 24 inches to the shoulder, the Airedale, known then as the Bingley or Waterside terrier, was renowned for its hunting prowess, particularly with foxes and rats.

"Airedales are also wonderful family pets, particularly with children. Dog owners should realize, however, that they are terriers and have a boisterous temperament", Mrs Hanks said.

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Arizona for the Grand Canyon. St. Louis—gateway to the West. Washington for the capital. San Francisco for the Golden Gate. Los Angeles for the stars. Dallas for some good of friends. Miami for the Florida Everglades. New York for New York.

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New airline to offer £99 flights to US

An independent airline that will offer £99 one-way flights to New York and Toronto was launched yesterday.

Highland Express, to be based at Prestwick, Strathclyde, hopes to create 200 jobs in Scotland by May, according to its American-born founder, Mr Randolph Fields, aged 33.

The airline, which will compete with other low-cost operators, will come into operation on June 1.

It has purchased a 15-year-old Boeing 747 for £15million, which is undergoing refurbishment in Hong Kong. Mr Fields said the company plans to have a second jumbo in operation by next year.

One-way flights will cost £99 for the first three weeks and will then go up to £159 for weekdays and £169 at weekends.

Mr Fields said he was confident that Highland Express would be able to offer £99 flights throughout the low season, from October to March.

The Civil Aviation Authority has approved its services from Birmingham, Stansted and Prestwick.

No gold on Armada wreck

This was an internal memo, a piece of sheer financial administration, that actually settles the identity of the *Tobermory* wreck beyond doubt.

Today little evidence remains of the vessel and her bronze guns, which could have settled her identity, were probably melted down.

In a forward to the book, the Duke of Argyll insists that the "mutilating enigma goes on in spite of the evidence". His ancestors underwent years of litigation over the supposed treasure with the Duke of York, later James II. The Argylls won the case, although two dukes were later executed.

The *Tobermory* Treasury by Alison McLeay (Conway Maritime Press, £12.50).

The *Tobermory* galleon, and its legendary cargo of £30million in gold, ranks as the most accessible yet elusive treasure in the world.

Over the past four centuries it has cost two Dukes of Argyll their heads and attracted most serious treasure hunters to the shallow waters of *Tobermory* Bay on the Island of Mull in the Inner Hebrides. Latest among them was the team which salvaged gold bullion from the wreck of the *HMS Edinburgh*.

According to Alison McLeay, whose book on the subject is about to be published, all have failed because the vessel that sailed close to *Tobermory* waterfront on November 5, 1588, was not the fabled *Tobermory*, carrying a duke's treasure, a papal crown and bullion that made her sides groan. It was, she claims, a much humbler refugee from the *Armada* which sank with little more coin than could be recovered from the pockets of its crew.

Her evidence is based on a memorandum from Phillip II of Spain to his accountants saying he had heard from the Yugoslav owners of the *San Juan de Sicilia*, a vessel commandeered by the Spanish, saying that two survivors had returned to Yugoslavia reporting that their ship had caught fire and sunk at the Island of Mull on November 5, 1588.

Miss McLeay said: "The owners were claiming the extra three month's hire from the time the ship was last sighted to when she sank."

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Welsh secretary sticks to policy

EMPLOYMENT

There was no need for a switch in the government attitude on unemployment, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said during Welsh questions in the Commons when he was challenged by a Labour back-bencher about Mr Michael Heseltine's weekend speech calling for the creation of a new "caring capitalism".

Mr Edwards said he did not think it needed such a change of attitude because concern on unemployment was shared by all government ministers.

He welcomed the changes in attitude and performance in industry generally, though it was necessary for those in work to recognise that their pay increases created unemployment.

Mr Edwards was answering Mr Raymond Powell (Ogmore, Lab) who had asked if he shared Mr Heseltine's view that the government and the Conservative Party must switch to caring Conservatism and caring capitalism.

Unemployment created degradation and frustration in homes, schools and in the streets generally (Mr Powell said), is not Mr Edwards concerned at the desperation which is leading to the escalation of violence and crime in the Principality in particular? Or the taking to drugs? Isn't it time that he joined his colleagues in protesting? There should be a change in attitude or a change in leadership.

Mr Edwards said perhaps the most important thing for job creation in Wales was to consider the reputation gained by firms here and abroad, in the attitude and performance of the Welsh workforce and the people.

They do not have an image of violence and hostility (Mr Powell said) but the creation of a caring capitalism would create an image of work force which will compete to the full to make a success of companies. That is where the future lies.

Mr Ronald Davies (Caerphilly, Lab) said that in Wales there was a real prospect of the young getting work and they had to rely almost entirely on the Youth Training Scheme.

The Mid Glamorgan Support Group had decided to refuse to sanction any further YTS schemes in 1986-87.

Mr Edwards said it was not true to say there was no prospect for young people in Wales. He knew of major companies in Wales taking on staff with an average age of 18. Two other companies in South Wales had workers of an average age of under 27. A lot of the young were getting work. He was concerned that agreement had not yet been reached in Mid Glamorgan about the Manpower Services Commission's proposals.

He believed the problems would be overcome by the Commission and he noted with satisfaction that other providers of training had said they would provide and take up the training places if necessary. But

he hoped this would not be needed.

Sir Anthony Meyer (Clwyd North, C) said the quickest alleviation of problems lay in further expansion of the Community Programme. The Minister should do everything he could to press for removal of the remaining obstacles in the way of expanding it.

Mr Edwards said this programme was important for the long term unemployed. At the end of December last year there were about 12,000 filled places in Wales and the aim was to expand this to 20,500 by June.

Mr Michael Foot (Blanaugwen, Lab) said it was absurd and intolerable that this government should insist through the MSC that extra funding should be made available by local authorities, particularly in the areas hardest hit, to get training schemes going.

Why does he not think boldly (Mr Foot said), and say that central government should pay for it?

Mr Edwards: I do not take it very well from Mr Foot of all people that he should lecture this government on youth training when his government failed to make provision for proper youth training.

This government had launched the largest youth training programme ever undertaken in the country and had extended the YTS, one year to a two year scheme. Labour had left a monstrous legacy for the government to catch up on.

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Edwards: Pay increases create unemployment

the receiving end of not caring capitalism but of naked, aggressive capitalism.

Mr Edwards said regional policy was effective and Wales was well placed as born out by the fact that over about 3 years Wales had got about 20 per cent of all inward investment to this country. In 1985 it had obtained 48 overseas projects, more than double the 1983 figure.

In the last week Wales had been in receipt of one of the best high technology research-based British companies to open a new factory in Gwent. It would take on over 100 people and was a world leading firm.

Later, Mr Edwards said the unemployment total for the whole of Wales was 176,500, an increase of 135 per cent since 1979.

Mr Barry Jones, chief opposition spokesman on Wales, said those figures invalidated Mr Edwards' earlier remarks.

When will this waste of human resources in Wales (he asked) come to an end? When can our people expect work in measurable numbers which will get rid of distressing dole queues?

Mr Edwards said the labour market report by the MSC three-quarters of all job losses in Wales are in the manufacturing sector and, on that basis, the de-industrialisation of Wales under this Government continues apace, losing blue chip companies like Courtaulds, Metal Box and the Milk Marketing Board.

He should ensure a change of Government policy to help the people of Wales get more work.

Mr Edwards said the situation in which there are about 35,000 people who have joined those eligible to work during the period of this Government so we have more people coming into the labour market.

We had to deal with what I think may well have been the final stage in the decline of the old basic industries in Wales which has gone on for many generations and that we must look to build on the very substantial number of new companies we have succeeded in attracting over the last few years.

Later, Mr Edwards said the Government had provided massive assistance, including urban aid, to Clwyd in the last 12 months. They would continue to provide that particular area of North East Wales with support at a high level.

Because they were doing so, it was a part of Wales that was being particularly successful in attracting new investment and new industries.

Mr Allan Rogers (Rhondda, Lab) said the position in Wales was disastrous, inward investment was not coming in, the scale to solve the deep problem they had in Wales. The Government should stop importing foreign coal. This was destroying the mining industry of South Wales.

Will the Secretary of State (he continued) cease his weak-kneed, pathetic subservience to the Prime Minister?

Mr Edwards said the import of some special coals was required because these coals were not readily available in this country. The trend required by the British Steel Corporation which had to survive in a competitive market.

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Mr Edwards said regional policy was effective and Wales was well placed as born out by the fact that over about 3 years Wales had got about 20 per cent of all inward investment to this country. In 1985 it had obtained 48 overseas projects, more than double the 1983 figure.

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Mr Barry Jones, chief opposition spokesman on Wales, said those figures invalidated Mr Edwards' earlier remarks.

When will this waste of human resources in Wales (he asked) come to an end? When can our people expect work in measurable numbers which will get rid of distressing dole queues?

Mr Edwards said the labour market report by the MSC three-quarters of all job losses in Wales are in the manufacturing sector and, on that basis, the de-industrialisation of Wales under this Government continues apace, losing blue chip companies like Courtaulds, Metal Box and the Milk Marketing Board.

He should ensure a change of Government policy to help the people of Wales get more work.

Mr Edwards said the situation in which there are about 35,000 people who have joined those eligible to work during the period of this Government so we have more people coming into the labour market.

We had to deal with what I think may well have been the final stage in the decline of the old basic industries in Wales which has gone on for many generations and that we must look to build on the very substantial number of new companies we have succeeded in attracting over the last few years.

Later, Mr Edwards said the Government had provided massive assistance, including urban aid, to Clwyd in the last 12 months. They would continue to provide that particular area of North East Wales with support at a high level.

Because they were doing so, it was a part of Wales that was being particularly successful in attracting new investment and new industries.

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Unemployment in Wales • Sadler's Wells

Whitelaw rejects Bristow inquiry

WESTLAND

A call for an inquiry into the alleged offer to Mr Bristow that he was offered a knighthood in return for his withdrawal from the Westland bid, was rejected by Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords, during a question time in the House of Lords.

Answering a question about the Government's knowledge of the alleged offer to Mr Bristow, Viscount Whitelaw said: It is not for me to question statements made by Mr Bristow, but I can assure the House that it is not possible within the workings of the honours system that any such offer could effectively have been made.

Lord Sturges (Lab) noted carefully Mr Bristow's exonerations of the Prime Minister in connection with the allegations,

but there is great public disbelief that a man of Mr Bristow's background, character and obvious active support of the Tory Party, could conceivably have fabricated such an allegation.

As two members of this House have been mentioned in this inducement and that brings suspicion on all of us in this House, will he initiate an inquiry so we can find out the truth and lift suspicion?

Viscount Whitelaw: The fact that Mr Bristow has exonerated the Prime Minister effectively makes my point. It is not for me either to confirm or deny the latest proposals about Mr Bristow since I must say I have no knowledge of Mr Bristow in any regard. I have met him, but I have no knowledge of his political affiliations.

I do not see how any offer which, if it was made must have been in the form of gossip or title-rattle, could possibly be the subject of an inquiry.

Lord Pele of York (C):

Does the originator of such suggestions without revealing the sources, accept thereafter to have very little weight attached to anything he says and those who circulate the suggestion do themselves very little credit?

Viscount Whitelaw: I have no comment to make on Mr Bristow.

Viscount St David (Ind): It is clear that any peer who offered Mr Bristow an honour of any kind must inevitably have been suffering from a certifiable insanity and is thus excusable from this House. (Laughter)

Lord Whitelaw: That question shows how wise I was to refrain from any particular comment.

Lord Hatch of Lusby (Lab): There is nothing unusual about members of this House or other members of the political system, promising to recommend that an individual be given a knighthood or a peerage.

In Mr Bristow's case he would qualify in view of the record of this Government's recommendations for honours, in that he is very wealthy and has contributed substantially to the Conservative Party.

Viscount Whitelaw: I do not know Mr Bristow's position. As for the honours system, of course there will be few in this House, and I am not immune, who have not had people come up to them saying "Would not it be a good idea if you or I was to join you in the House of Lords?"

I have heard that on all sorts of occasions, but if I was to say "Yes, that would be absolutely splendid" I would not actually be making an offer or recommendation because the system has many checks and balances which have been there a long time.

To engage in gossip or titillation of this kind is not realistic and does not do us any good.

Hope for Sadler's Wells rises

THE ARTS

Mr Richard Lacey, Minister for the Arts, said in the Commons he hoped an initiative announced that day by the Arts Council would enable the Sadler's Wells theatre to be kept open.

The Arts Council had announced it would hold a meeting on Friday February 14 with Sadler's Wells and the three companies that regularly used the theatre to discuss a possible solution. This would involve the Arts Council giving the theatre additional funding in order to enable them to pay economic levels of rent for the theatre.

Mr Lacey added later (in a written reply) I applied this initiative to the Sadler's Wells and believe that a scheme on these lines, combined with other fund-raising efforts as appropriate, will enable the main stage of the theatre to remain open.

I understand that there is also a separate plan to open a new community studio during 1986-87. No doubt Sadler's Wells will be discussing this with the Arts Council and the relevant successor authorities.

Mr Norman Joseph (Chelmsford, C), former Arts Minister, had said that business sponsorship had tragically failed to raise the small sum of money needed to keep the Sadler's Wells theatre open and he had been disappointed to find that £250,000 which would save the nation from a major cultural disaster.

Mr Lacey said that the present level of business sponsorship for the arts was estimated by the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts at about £20 million.

Mr Timothy Yee (South Suffolk, C): The level of business sponsorship could be substantially increased if the Government could deduct the donations up to an agreed limit of pre-tax profits, along American lines.

This would be a cost-effective charge because for each pound of tax revenue the arts would increase by almost £3.

Mr Lacey: The Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme

has made a significant contribution in increasing the amount of money for the arts in the last 15 or 16 months, which is now to the tune of £6,700,000.

That is a lot of money, additional money for the arts, and it is something which I have increased in the forthcoming year's financial budget. Most of them had gone according to plan and some were slightly ahead of plan.

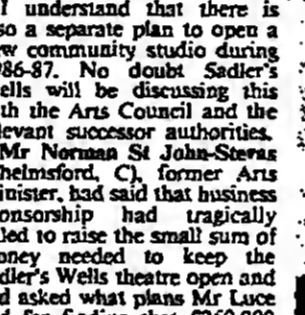
He agreed that the timetable was tight and put additional professional demands on secondary school teachers, but that from that timetable was simply not an option.

The Government would listen sympathetically, however, to any suggestions made by the examining groups, employers or teacher unions about ways in which the Government might help to smooth the introduction of this important examination.

Teaching of the new syllabus would start this autumn. The examination would be set for the first time in the summer of 1988.

Opening the debate, Mr Alan Haselhurst (Saffron Walden, C) moved a motion calling for future policy towards 14 to 19 year olds to be based on a close integration of education, training and the youth service, taking full account of the aims and objectives of Industry Year.

He said education and training should begin at the age of 14 and there should be three choices: first, a general, broad-based, technical and vocationally-oriented course; and second, a workplace-oriented course.



Lacey: Significant business contribution to arts



Haselhurst: Education and training should begin at age 14

Government firm on new GCSE

EDUCATION

The Government was not prepared to abandon the new General Certificate of Secondary Education examination and to preside over what would be a chaotic process, Mr Charles Clarke, Minister of State for Education and Science, declared in a Commons debate on education and training.

He said preparations for the examination were unprecedented. Most of them had gone according to plan and some were slightly ahead of plan.

He agreed that the timetable was tight and put additional professional demands on secondary school teachers, but that from that timetable was simply not an option.

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Those choices should be regarded as equal.

They will under-prepare young people for the world of work. It should become the accepted norm that full time work only began at the age of 18 at the earliest.

They should encourage youngsters to be able to switch between different routes and channels.

Employers had to understand what they were getting when young people presented themselves seeking a job. Therefore, employers must have greater input into the system, making it clear what they expect from potential recruits.

Mr Patten said there would be chaos only if some of the teacher unions determined that there would be chaos.

But I do not believe (he said) in the week of what we all hope will be a satisfactory settlement under ACAS, that any responsible secondary teacher will really set out to wreck what all teacher unions recognize as the most important educational advance for children of this age that anyone has undertaken for years.

For most young people it was crystal clear that a once-for-all plunge into the job market without any training after age 16 offered only the most questionable of futures.

One reason for the failure to bring together education and training was the absurd and debilitating polarization between so-called academic learning and so-called vocational learning.

Mr Barry Sheehama, Opposition spokesman on education and training, said the Secretary of State for Education and Science (Sir Keith Joseph) had agreed to a radical, technical and vocationally-oriented course; and third, a workplace-oriented course.

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Mystery of smallpox virus at hygiene school

HOUSE OF LORDS

There was no danger arising from the discovery of a batch of smallpox virus at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Health, said during a question time in the House of Lords. An investigation was being made into the discovery.

Answering a question about the control of dangerous pathogens, he said: General control of pathogens, as with other workplace hazards, is provided by the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

This places a duty on employers to take all reasonable steps to safeguard the health of their employees and others. Under the Health and Safety (Dangerous Pathogens) Regulations 1981, keeping, handling and transport of some of the most dangerous pathogens, including smallpox, must be notified to the Health and Safety Executive.

According to the notifications received under these regulations, the last stocks of smallpox virus were removed from this country in 1982. Inspectors from the Health and Safety Executive are investigating the recent discovery of material labelled smallpox SP22 at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

The executive is satisfied that all appropriate steps have been taken to deal with risks that may have arisen out of the discovery. Further steps are being taken to remind relevant employers of the requirements for safe working with pathogens.

He added later: No danger at all has arisen from the incident. As far as I am aware, smallpox has been eradicated from the world although occasional sporadic cases occur and they have to be dealt with.

The virus is held only in the United States and the Soviet Union and it is kept there for research purposes. How the batch came to be found at the London School, is a matter now being investigated fully.

Clash over future of water in Wales

There were loud Conservative reactions after MPs had been told that the chief executive of the Welsh Water Authority (Mr Bernard Doyle) had complained to Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, that a statement in the Commons last week by Mrs Ann Clwyd (Clwyd, Yel, Lab) was a complete fabrication.

It happened during questions, after Mrs Clwyd had reminded Mr Edwards that he had told MPs that the chairman of the Welsh Water Authority (Mr John Eifed Jones) favoured privatisation. But she told him that the chief executive had said he could see no value in it for consumers or employees.

Who is speaking (she asked) for the Welsh Water Authority? The chairman, whom Mr Edwards appointed, or the chief executive, who is speaking for the majority of the people of Wales? (Conservative protest.)

Mr Edwards said the chief executive had written to him about what Mrs Clwyd quoted him as saying.

The letter said Mr Doyle was sorry confusion was caused (Labour laughter) and that he wanted to set the record straight by making it clear he said nothing of the sort to Mrs Clwyd. (Conservative cry of "Oh".) Mr Doyle had said he felt particularly aggrieved that words attributed to him in the House were a complete fabrication.

Earlier, Mr Edward Row-

lands (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, Lab) said the overwhelming majority of people in Wales found it deeply offensive that he was to be profiting on such a statement as supply as water to their homes. There would be no competition.

Mr Edwards (he said) has no mandate to introduce this sort of system before the next election. (Labour cheers and Conservative protests.)

Mr Edwards said many people in Wales would like to buy shares in the new company. It was not true that there would be no competition. There was room for greatly improved service and efficiency.

Later, on a point of order, Mrs Clwyd said the Secretary

of State for Wales) had accused her of misleading the House by quoting from a statement made by the chief executive of the Welsh Water Authority. She would like to repeat that statement.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill): I cannot allow her to do that because this is an extension of question time. We frequently hear answers with which we disagree.

If I allowed her to take up a challenge of that kind I would have to do it for every other MP. It would not be fair.

Mr Edwards: I think it would be helpful if I were to lay the full text of the letter in the library. That is what I propose to do.

Mr Barry Jones, Chief Opposition spokesman on

Wales: I welcome that, Mr Edwards made an unwarranted attack on Mrs Clwyd.

Mr Edwards: I made no attack on her. I merely quoted from a letter sent to me by someone who felt aggrieved by something said by her.

Mrs Clwyd: It would have been courteous for the chief executive of the Welsh Water Authority to have sent me a copy of the letter and I would expect an apology.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Wages Bill, second reading; Atomic Energy Authority Bill, remaining stages; Lords (2.30): Prevention of Oil Pollution Bill, third reading; Shops Bill, report stage.

Appeal for POW germ war facts

The wife of a former British prisoner-of-war has written to President Reagan asking him to release secret documents concerning germ warfare experiments carried out by Japanese doctors during the Second World War.

Twenty-seven former prisoners from Britain, the United States and Australia are campaigning for the truth to be revealed by the Japanese and US governments.

A British television documentary, *Did The Emperor Know?* shown in Britain and America last year, alleged a cover-up by the American Government. It claimed that a number of germ warfare experiments were given immunity after the war in return for giving General Douglas MacArthur all records of the experiments.

Mrs Eileen Christie, aged 59, whose husband, Arthur, survived the laboratory camp at Mukden, Manchuria, said in her letter to President Reagan that the documents will show what kind of injections her husband and other POWs suffered.

"Many wives, children and grandchildren of the Mukden men have suffered many unexplained strange fevers and illnesses in Britain and America. We are campaigning for justice and the truth," Mrs Christie, of Bryncir, north Wales, said yesterday.

Her youngest daughter died last year, two months before her eighteenth birthday, from a tumour in the spine. Mrs Christie said that she had had blood tests since she was two years old, and had similar fevers to those suffered by her father.

The American Mukden survivors have won a Senate inquiry to begin this month. Mr Christie, who was a sergeant in the British Army for 16 years, said the British POWs also want an inquiry. He said a diary kept by Major Robert Peaty gave details of the Mukden experiments and copies have been sent to both American and Australian POWs.

The Japanese doctors always claimed the Mukden men were injected for influenza and small pox.

Rival design for fleet tender

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

British Shipbuilders has produced a contender for a new class of Royal Fleet Auxiliary supply ship, which it claims will cost only half as much as a design scheduled to be ordered by the Royal Navy next month.

The new design is known as the Fleet Support King 20/20 because it can operate at more than 20 knots and carry more than 20,000 tonnes of cargo. It was first shown to the Royal Navy last October and detailed specifications have been under examination since December.

Mr Graham Day, chairman and chief executive of British Shipbuilders, said it was designed as a tender to replace the ageing ships of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

Consortia led by Harland and Wolff and Swan Hunter have submitted tenders to build the first of another class of support ship, the auxiliary oiler replenishment (AOR) vessels, which are specifically intended to support the navy's new type of frigate, the Type 23 Duke Class.

Decline in meat sales reversed

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Confirmation that the decline in meat eating in Britain has been reversed came in figures released yesterday by the Meat and Livestock Commission. Total meat consumption last year was 2.7 per cent higher than in 1984 and sales of red meat were up by 3.8 per cent.

British consumption was about three million tonnes of meat, the highest figure since 1979.

The biggest increase was for beef and veal, up by 6.5 per cent to 1,100,000 tonnes. Poultry sales were also up by 3.6 per cent and pork by 3 per cent. Although consumption of mutton and lamb was down, sales of home-produced lamb increased by 2 per cent.

The claim that the downward trend had been stemmed, first made in the autumn, had been disputed by vegetarian organizations. But Mr Keith Roberts, the commission chairman, said yesterday that the figures disposed of "the fictitious claims of vegetarian expansion".

Radio aids 'can help pupils'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Thousands of deaf and hard-of-hearing children could be given the chance of a normal education if the National Health Service were to provide a comprehensive rather than patchy supply of radio hearing aids, a study commissioned by ministers says.

Radio hearing aids, where for example a teacher uses a radio microphone whose signal is picked up by the child's hearing aid, work in classrooms far better than conventional aids.

Despite their effectiveness, a third of radio aids are provided by charities or are bought by parents.

The survey found that about 3,300 children had access to radio aids, which cost between £500 and £1,200 each, but the health service were to run a national programme bulk orders could cut the cost of the aids by up to 70 per cent.

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Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

The Conservative Party demonstrated over the week-end just how badly it has been damaged by the Westland saga. It presented the picture of a party divided over its future and uncertain about its leadership.

This uncertainty was evident even from the comments of the Thatcher loyalists, who felt it necessary to leap to her defence. Lord Whitelaw spoke out openly and eagerly on her behalf on Friday.

Mr Norman Tebbit did so more obligingly at the Young Conservatives' conference in Blackpool. "The Opposition would like to see the Prime Minister removed," he declared. "Let them say who could possibly take her place." It was a comment that seemed to be directed even more pointedly to some members of his own party.

Campaign shows leader in trouble

Sir Geoffrey Howe drew attention to Mrs Thatcher's international standing, an asset for this country that is unlikely to have been diminished by the Westland fracas but may too easily be forgotten amidst our little local excitements.

A leader who requires an obviously concerted campaign of support from colleagues is clearly in some kind of trouble. But just how serious were the Conservative attacks upon Mrs Thatcher, whether lightly or heavily coded?

The most direct and the least unexpected came from Mr Michael Heseltine. It was an assault not explicitly upon her as leader, but upon the basic direction of the Government. Mr Heseltine has never accepted the heads-off approach to industry.

His belief in "the closest relationship between government and industry" is not a mere slogan that has come to him only with the loss of office. He is saying the same in his speech by the 1975 Conservative conference; the first one after Mrs Thatcher became party leader.

The seriousness of this attack is that it goes much deeper than personalities. But this line of reasoning is liable to suffer from being associated with Mr Heseltine's presumed bid for the succession, which seems doomed to fail.

Mr Peter Walker's call for "some radical rethinking" and Mr Norman Fowler's enthusiasm for speeding more on the welfare state may both have sounded a discordant note to the Prime Minister's ears. But both ministers were saying much the same before Westland without shaking the Government's foundations.

Biffen worried by Alliance threat

If it were Mrs Thatcher, the ministerial comment that would cause me most anxiety came from Mr John Biffen. I would be disconcerted both by his remark in his letter to his constituency chairman that "the language of conflict can easily degenerate into self-defeating aggression", and by his refusal on BBC radio on Sunday to give an unequivocal assertion that he expected her to lead the party to victory at the general election.

His statements were significant not because he is disloyal, but because he is frank. He clearly believes that a new style leadership is required to head off the threat from the Alliance in particular, and he does not seem to be convinced that Mrs Thatcher can provide it.

But what is being expressed here is surely a doubt rather than a challenge. It indicates the nature of the problem now facing Mrs Thatcher. What she has to fear is not a Cabinet intransigence, but a mounting belief in the parliamentary party that it is headed for defeat.

There will have to be some concessions to the principle of collective Cabinet responsibility. But it will be no bad thing if there is a more orderly system of consultation.

One of the reasons for the British Labour fiasco last week was that a number of ministers concerned—Mr Norman Fowler and Mr George Younger were among those to protest—were not brought into the discussions in good time.

The critical test for Mrs Thatcher, though, will not be whether she manages to assuage the frustrations of her colleagues, but whether she can recapture the confidence of the electorate. If she can, no ministerial murmuring will matter. If she cannot, her hold on office will become ever more in peril.

Iran...
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Austria rock...

سكذا من الاصل

Iran troops threaten Basra after night attack on Iraq island

By Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent

For the first time in the five-and-a-half-year Gulf war, the Iranians have succeeded in crossing the broad Shatt al-Arab waterway south of the Iraqi city of Basra and capturing an Iraqi island on the western bank, threatening not only the main highway to Kuwait but Basra itself.

The offensive — which the Iranians codenamed "Dawn 8" — was intended to mark the seventh anniversary of the Islamic revolution that brought Ayatollah Khomeini to power, but it also struck the gravest blow to Iraq's military power since the great battles in the Howzeh Marshes two years ago.

The Iranian news agency announced that troops of the country's 77th division had struck a "horrific blow" against the Iraqis when they staged a water-borne invasion of the island under cover of storms and heavy rain at 10 o'clock on Sunday night.

Iranians admitted that the Iraqis had gained "a shaky foothold" on their side of the river, a clear indication that the Tehran claim was substantially true.

Um al-Rasas Island is a waterlogged sandbar of date palms and abandoned villages, three miles from the main road between Basra and the oil terminal at Fao, and once connected to the mainland by a metal pontoon bridge. According to Tehran radio, Iranian soldiers

crossed the river shunting "Yal Zahra" — after the daughter of the Prophet Muhammad — before storming ashore on the muddy banks of the island.

The Iraqis yesterday conceded that an Iranian offensive had developed south of Basra in areas controlled by their Third and Seventh army corps. A military communiqué issued in Baghdad said that Iraqi forces "continue (sic) to wipe out the enemy and to expel it from our pure territory", but the admission that the Iraqis had crossed the river told its own story.

By attacking at night and during a rainstorm, the Iraqis were able to land on Um al-Rasas — which literally means "mother of the bullet" — without fear of a counter-offensive by the Iraqi Air Force which, in the past, has not hesitated to use gas on the Iraqis. Their foothold on the island, however tenuous, must have made the road to Fao virtually impass-

able while threatening the highway south of Basra which leads to the Kuwaiti frontier at Safwan.

The official Iraqi news agency quoted its correspondent in the south of the country as reporting that the Iraqis sustained "high casualties".

Basra itself was heavily shelled during Sunday night, according to the Iraqis, who in 1984 tried to cut the city off by attacking through the marshes to the north. Although the Iraqis never publicly admitted the fact, the Iraqis did then briefly cross the main road to Baghdad, a development which, like Sunday night's offensive, provoked considerable fear among the Arab Gulf states close to the war.

TEHRAN: Ayatollah Khomeini gave a spirited speech to some 150 foreign Muslim activists yesterday, sometimes lecturing them with a sternly pointing finger but also provoking laughter.

Marking the anniversary of Iran's Islamic Revolution, he told guests they had a duty to spread the good name of Islam and defend Iran against its detractors abroad.

"Go and awaken your nations. Do not worry what your government would do. If it does something, it just increases the respect in which you are held. If it sends you to prison or exile, you will be even more respected," he said.



Ministers in the fast lane

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israelis are being asked by police to report government ministers' cars if they notice them speeding.

The request comes from the head of the National Traffic Police, Assistant Commander Eitan Ben-Yehoshua, after a motoring magazine recorded that every minister using the main motorway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem one morning was travelling at least 11 mph over the speed limit.

The magazine *Arts* is campaigning for an increase in speed limits above the present national ceiling of 90 kilometers per hour (56 mph).

Armed with a radar gun, it stalked out the road one Sunday morning when ministers who live in Tel Aviv were bound to be on their way to the Knesset in Jerusalem.

Of the 11 who took the road with their chauffeurs, the fastest, appropriately enough, was the Energy Minister, Mr Moshe Shaleh, roaring past in his Volvo 240 at more than 86 mph — some 30 mph over the limit.

Not much slower was the Police Minister, Mr Hanan Bar Lev, whose Peugeot 505 was clocked at over 79 mph.

The slowest, again appropriately, was the Health Minister, Mr Mordechai Gur, in his Volvo 240 travelling at a relatively modest 67.5 mph.

The average speed of the ministers was nearly 76 mph.

Mr Shaleh has refused to accept the test as accurate. His driver, he said, has orders to obey the speed limit. Mr Bar Lev has in the past asked unsuccessfully for the speed limit to be raised.

The assistant commander agrees with the magazine that it is time to raise the speed limit on motorways.

His figures show that last year 16 per cent fewer speeding tickets were issued than in 1984 while there were 3 per cent fewer road accidents and 9 per cent fewer fatalities.

Palestinians turn down Peres plan

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem

The idea of giving Arabs in the occupied territories limited autonomy, floated at the weekend by Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, has found little or no support from Palestinians or Israelis.

His suggestion is to create a kind of regional government in which the Arab inhabitants would be granted control over such areas as education, health and agriculture.

But yesterday leading Palestinians in the territories spurned the idea for not going far enough, while leaders in both the Israeli Labour Party and the Likud condemned it as opening the door to control by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Nevertheless, Mr Peres is understood to have asked his private caucus to work out details of such a plan.

Today is the first anniversary of the agreement between King Hussein and Mr

Yassir Arafat, chairman of the PLO, to work together to negotiate for a Palestinian homeland confederated to Jordan.

Mr Peres believes this attempt has been a total failure so far. He has asked Mr Gad Yaqobi, the Economic and Planning Minister, to draw up a detailed scheme for making significant improvements in the living standards in the occupied territories and for reducing to a minimum Israeli involvement in all but security matters.

The idea would be to prepare a basis for this kind of government by appointing Palestinian staff officers to junior positions in government in the territories and gradually promoting them into the decision-making jobs.

From the Palestinian point of view, however, it is the tight control by Israeli security forces which is most resented.

300 hurt in Delhi price riots

Delhi (AFP) — At least 300 people were injured yesterday when police with batons tried to disperse crowds demonstrating around Delhi as part of a 10-hour general strike.

About 300 people were charged with rioting and damaging public property. More than 100 buses had windcreens smashed and tyres punctured.

The strike was called by opposition parties in protest at recent rises in the cost of petroleum products and public transport fares. A spokesman called it a complete success.

He said it should be a warning to the Government before the 1986-87 budget is presented this month.

Spy swap expected today

From Frank Johnson, Berlin

It is believed that Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, the Jewish dissident held by the Soviet Union, will reach the West today, but it is still not known if he will walk to freedom across the Glienicke Bridge.

On the eve of the highly-publicized East-West prisoner swap, there seems little doubt that the 10 others involved in the exchange — five captured spies from East and West respectively — will be released at the bridge. Their names are still unknown to the rest of the world.

Yesterday, American officials told the West Berlin police to order the caravans of waiting television crews and cars of news agency reporters, working in shifts, several yards back from where they had been parked on the road leading to the bridge.

This apparently high-handed action was constitutional because the area is legally the US occupation zone. Reports circulated that Mr Shcharansky's wife, Mrs Avital Shcharansky, had arrived in Bonn.

Ismail 'killed in tank'

Aden (Reuters) — South Yemen has announced that the former President, Abdul-Fattah Ismail, died at the start of the bloody power struggle between factions of the ruling party last month.

Aden radio said President Ismail died from burns when a tank he was in was hit. Diplomatic sources said it appeared the new Yemeni

leadership delayed announcing the death until a new government was formed.

The former Prime Minister, Mr Haider Abubaker al-Atias, was appointed President on Saturday and a new government was formed under Mr Yasseen Said Noman, a former Deputy Prime Minister.

Robert Fisk, page 12

Austria rocked by case of the fugitive abbot

From Richard Basset, Vienna

A wealthy monastery suddenly millions of pounds in debt: another abbot who cannot be traced; another abbot who publicly denounces him during his sermon. These who enjoy titles of monastic intrigue popularized in best-selling novels would be fascinated by recent events at the Cistercian Abbey of Rein, in Styria.

Austrian police were called in last week to investigate the financial affairs of one of the country's wealthiest Cistercian abbeys after its abbot resigned amid accusations that he was responsible for

running his monastery into debts of more than £5 million.

The Cistercian Order has eight monasteries in Austria with assets totalling billions of pounds. Like the Austrian Benedictines, they own considerable estates exceeding in value anything owned by the Austrian state. They are also responsible for producing some of the country's most celebrated wine.

The financial problems at the baroque abbey which contains the 15th century tomb of Archduke Ernest "the Iron", emerged while Dr Paulus Rappold was abbot. Two weeks ago, as a monastery's vast financial losses began to circulate, Dr

Rappold disappeared from the abbey.

At a sermon delivered on Sunday at the monastery church, the General Abbot of the Cistercian Order in Austria, Dr Dominik Nimmervoll, explained that Dr Rappold had resigned for "serious reasons".

Dr Rappold's administration had resulted in the Cistercian Order having to pay nearly £250,000 a year in interest to its bankers, Dr Nimmervoll said. He did not explain, however, how the sun had been lost.

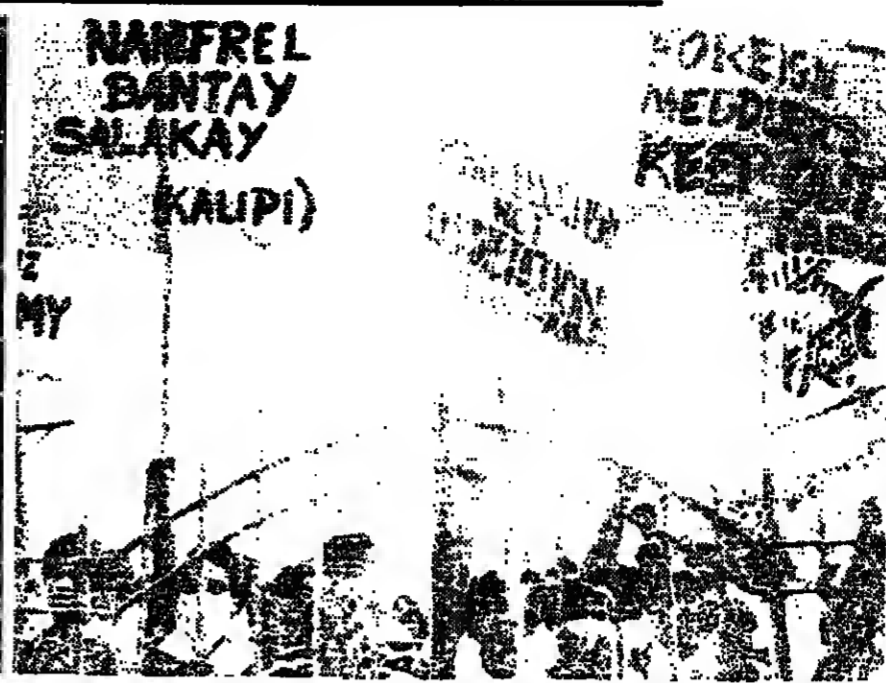
Although Dr Rappold had been in constant contact during the last few weeks, he emerged only briefly last

Friday to deny in a telephone call to Austrian radio that he had been responsible for such staggering losses. Dr Rappold refused to give his address but said he would give a press conference in the near future as soon as an injured foot had healed.

In a radio interview, Dr Nimmervoll explained that, although the abbot had been officially asked to resign only late last week, the Vatican had examined the case for three months and had recommended Dr Rappold's resignation at the end of January.

Austrian police will decide over the next few weeks whether Dr Rappold will face criminal charges.

Chaos in the Philippines election count



About 200 people protested at the presence of Senator Richard Lugar, left, chief US observer of the Philippine presidential election, outside the Manila Hotel yesterday as he held a press conference.

Unarmed army of poll guards

From David Watts, Manila

Mr Joe Concepcion cuts a rather unlikely figure for a general — trying to ensure that the election returns presented to Parliament for ratification are a true reflection of the votes cast.

Though polling day has passed, the most important part of the "war" is yet to come — trying to ensure that the election returns presented to Parliament for ratification are a true reflection of the votes cast.

The National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL) first made its appearance during the parliamentary poll of 1984. Then a mainly middle-class organization, it limited fraud in the parliamentary elections and helped rekindle the spirit of struggle which has now come close to removing the president.

In a letter to his thousands of volunteers before polling day, Mr Concepcion told them to chain themselves to the ballot boxes if necessary. He warned them they might have to protect the sanctity of the ballot with their lives.

Mr Concepcion was in tears when he met the widow of one of at least three who died while in the ranks of NAMFREL. Almost hysterical, the widow asked him who was now to provide for her and her three children.

NAMFREL was the last resort for Filipinos desperate for a true reflection of popular will after 20 years of rule by President Ferdinand Marcos.

Mr Concepcion, who has one of the Philippines' largest private companies, Republic Flour Mills, and a hotel among his interests, said: "You Europeans take fair elections for granted: we have to fight for them."

The Government has attempted to depict him as a businessman slighted by the present regime and out to satisfy his own ends. Last year he was given a bill for 400 million pesos of unpaid taxes.

Like many businessmen, Mr Concepcion is frustrated with the way crony capitalism, the control of the country's main industries by friends of Mr Marcos, is sapping economic strength. But there is more to it than that. He is a devout Catholic

and, like many in the Church, he sees the values and lives of younger Filipinos being devalued by the present dispensation.

President Reagan, in a pre-election statement, said the judgement of the election on NAMFREL's opinion. Senator Richard Lugar, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, who has just completed observation of the elections, called NAMFREL his "eyes and ears". As a result, Mr Concepcion and his movement have been vilified in the pro-Marcos press and by Mr J.V. Cruz, the Philippines Ambassador to London.

There have been the inevitable accusations of being stooges, but NAMFREL's treasurer maintains that all foreign offers of financial support have been declined.

On Friday, NAMFREL had hoped to have representatives at 85 per cent of the country's 86,000 polling stations but manipulation, flouting of election instructions and terrorism, eliminated them entirely from five provinces. Mr Concepcion's army consists of nuns, teachers, students and retired army officers. On the northern island of Batanes, two of its poll watchers in one precinct were retired school teachers over the age of 70.

They have had to endure threats, beatings and the possibility of death in the hope that they will help restore some of the Philippines' lost freedoms.

Lugar's team reports back

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Senator Richard Lugar is due to report to President Reagan today on the Philippines election, which presents the Administration with one of its most difficult foreign policy decisions.

Amid reports that the Pentagon is considering sending military advisers to help train the Philippines Army to contain growing communist insurgency, Mr Reagan is under pressure to take firm action after suggestions by Senator Lugar and his team of observers that the election was manipulated.

Senator Lugar, chairman of the foreign relations committee, was asked by Mr Reagan to lead the congressional team. His vexation and anger at the conduct of the election will inevitably fuel calls in Congress for swift punitive measures against President Marcos, including a demand for a cut in military aid.

Newsweek magazine reported yesterday, however, that the Administration, deeply concerned at the increasing strength of the communist New People's Army, wants to bolster the Philippines Army with two companies of military advisers.

Quoting unnamed Pentagon experts, *Newsweek* said there were plans to send about 300 men, probably

army Green Berets, to a Philippines Army training base near Manila.

Other options included restructuring the Philippines Army more towards fighting a land-based guerrilla war, encouraging more army civic projects such as building roads and dams and revising military agreements with the Philippines Army to allow greater US responsibility for the defence of its bases there.

The Pentagon refused to confirm or deny the report. But Congress is unlikely to support Administration proposals to increase US aid to the Philippines Army until Mr Marcos undertakes substantial military reform.

Walesa trial may be put off

Gdansk (Reuters) — The Solidarity leader, Mr Lech Walesa, will appear for trial on criminal slander charges here today but there is mounting speculation that the case may immediately be dropped or adjourned, Western diplomats said.

Government officials have indicated that the authorities are anxious to avoid the embarrassment of a hearing lasting several days which could result in Mr Walesa being jailed for up to two years if convicted.

The charges were brought after parliamentary elections last October when Mr Walesa issued voting estimates compiled by his banned free trade union which were sharply lower than official figures. Election officials in several regions complained they had been defamed.

Plea to arm cargo ships

Athens (UPI) — A Greek shipowner, Mr John Theodorakopoulos, says arming merchant vessels is the only way to counter growing attacks by pirates against international shipping.

"The lives of our crews and the safety of our ships are at stake," he declared.

Twenty-eight Greek ships were attacked by pirates in the first six months of last year. The latest victim was a Theodorakopoulos supertanker, the Marianna, which was raided between Singapore and Borneo.

Murder city

Mexico City (UPI) — Police reported 15 murders and 240 robberies in Mexico's capital in a single day over the weekend in what was described as a "marked increase in urban violence."

Air rivalry

Wellington (Reuters) — A leading New Zealand tourism and transport operator, the Newmans Group, is carrying out studies on establishing a national airline to compete with the state-owned monopoly, Air New Zealand.

Exile's award

New York (Reuters) — The Soviet dissident, Mrs Yelena Bonner, accepted honorary degrees from Rutgers, Long Island and Pennsylvania universities for her husband, Dr Andrei Sakharov, in internal exile in Gorky.

Rock link-up

Madrid — A further round of talks between British and Spanish officials on wider civilian use of Gibraltar airport, including prospects for a direct link-up with Madrid, began here yesterday.

Refugee aid

Rome (Reuters) — Ethiopian refugees in Somalia will get emergency food aid worth \$11.9 million (£7.9 million) from the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization announced. More than 800,000 will benefit.

Lost chord

Moscow (Reuters) — Vandals damaged a grand piano at the residence of the US Ambassador in Moscow only hours before a Jewish "refusenik" sat down to give a concert. An string was cut, three bent and two others were untuned.

Boat blast

Singapore (UPI) — Six Singaporeans died and two others were missing after a boat they were on exploded at the Malaysian holiday island of Pulau Langkawi. Fourteen others on board swam to shore but eight of them were injured.

Doctors quit

Athens (AP) — More than 6,000 doctors working for the Greek social security services started a five-day strike for higher wages and better working conditions. Hundreds of clinics were forced to close.

14-year stand

Jakarta (AFP) — A 34-year-old man has remained standing on the doorstep of his house for more than 14 years since his mother's death. A newspaper reported here. He was punishing himself for being mean to his mother villagers at Sikebut, North Sumatra, said.

Sharia stays

Khartoum (AFP) — Sudan's state security Act, introduced by former President Nimeiry, will be repealed after the trials of prominent figures in his regime, but the controversial Islamic Sharia law retained, the attorney-general said here.

Haiti gets used to freedom

From Trevor Fishlock, Port-au-Prince

Haiti began to get back to normal yesterday after the astonishing events of the previous week. Like people trying on new clothes, Haitians started to enjoy the feeling of freedom.

The shooting that had punctuated the previous days and nights in Port-au-Prince became much more sparse, although the Army fired on one of the few remaining Tontons Macoute houses in the capital to persuade the men inside that the game was up.

The curfew imposed over the weekend to lower the temperature was shortened yesterday and began at 6pm rather than 2pm.

The airport, which had been closed for several days, opened yesterday for an Air Canada Boeing 747, which arrived to pick up stranded Canadians.

There are not many tourists in Haiti. The political situation and the Aids scare — Haitians were at one time on a list of people most at risk from Aids — has reduced the holiday business considerably.

There are no air services to the United States and these will probably not resume until the end of the week.

Haiti is reluctant to allow services from the US to resume immediately because it does not want large numbers of Haitian exiles arriving at a time when the



Haitians celebrating as soldiers rounded up members of the hated Tontons Macoute militia in Port-au-Prince.

Pope tells priests not to dabble

From Michael Hamlyn, Pune

The Pope wound up his 10-day tour of India with a stern warning to his flock against involvement in "liberation theology".

Though he did not mention the subject by name he gave a clear instruction to seminarians in the course of an open-air Mass in Pune not to dabble in secular politics.

The liberation theologians believe that the Church has a role in bettering the conditions of its people by political action, in addition to the more usual religious activities.

As a result priests in Latin America and other Third World countries have been active in leading industrial disputes, and political protests of all sorts. Even in India, priests have been deeply involved in disputes affecting fishermen in the southern and heavily Christian state of Kerala.

He told students at a Roman Catholic seminary in Pune yesterday: "The Church's ministers are not called to play leadership roles in the secular spheres of society."

After telling the young men training to become priests that they were called to be spiritual leaders "dedicated to prayer and the word of God," he said: "India has many competent lay men and women to attend to these matters."

At the army-dominated town of Pune — which is how they spell Poonna these days — the Pope's meeting was attended by about 30,000 people, close to the Aga Khan Palace, where Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned by the British, and where his wife, Kasturba, died.

Pune is also noted as the place where Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh set up his first ashram to preach his gospel to well-heeled Westerners. It is also the place where Nataram Godse, Mahatma Gandhi's assassin came from.

Mr Godse's brother Gopal has been a leading light in the Hindu Mahasabha which was prominent in leading protests against the coming of the Pope. However, not only in Pune but elsewhere in the country too, the 14-city tour has passed off virtually without incident.

Runcie apologizes to Indian churches

By Michael Hamlyn

The Archbishop of Canterbury yesterday began a series of addresses in India by apologizing to the clergy of Bombay for the Church of England's "rigid view of Anglicanism".

Dr Robert Runcie said he hoped his visit would show how the true succession of the Anglican tradition lay — "within the wider unity of the church of North India and not in any so-called continuing Anglican group or congregation".

The Church in India was

formed when the country's Anglican churches joined with some Nonconformist churches to create a unified denomination, which was in fact outside the Anglican communion.

Dr Runcie said he regretted that the united Indian churches had never been represented at the decennial Lambeth conferences because they were technically not in the Anglican Church.

"We sadly lacked the wisdom, experience and testimony of Christians from India,"

Mulroney's standing damaged by series of Cabinet blunders

From John Best, Ottawa

Only 17 months after winning the biggest electoral mandate in Canadian history, the Conservative Government of Mr Brian Mulroney is in deep trouble. This is despite the fact that, by any objective yardstick, it has not performed at all badly.

A recently published Gallup poll showed that the Tories had slipped behind the Liberals, the main opposition party, in popular support. It indicated that 58 per cent of Canadians favoured the Liberals, 37 per cent the Tories and 24 per cent the left-wing New Democratic Party.

Only eight months earlier the Tories had a 54 per cent popularity rating, more even than on election night. September 4, 1984, when they captured 50 per cent of the vote in an overwhelming victory over the Liberals, who had held power almost continuously since 1963.

Another poll, by the Quebec Institute of Public Opinion, was even more ominous for the Conservatives. It showed them trailing the Liberals in Quebec province by 54 per cent to 23 per cent. It is widely acknowledged that the Conservatives have to put down strong roots in predominantly French-speaking Quebec to keep their hold on power nationally.

Most of the other nine provinces sway back and forth, but Quebec has rarely voted anything but Liberal. In the 1980 election the Conservatives got one seat in the province; the other 74 went to the Liberals.

Thus the Tories made a huge breakthrough when, in 1984, they won 58 seats, against 17 for the Liberals. The latest poll results, though, suggest that this may have been a temporary phenomenon.

Quebec's disenchantment can be traced to Mr Mulroney's failure to recruit top-calibre people from the province for his Cabinet. Of eight French-speaking Quebecers in the administration, only one or two are even mildly outstanding.

Nationally, the Tories have been stumbling from one mini-crisis to another. Recently the Commons witnessed the spectacle of two senior ministers apologizing to fellow members: the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Erik Nielsen, for electronic eavesdropping on the Liberal caucus 20 years ago (as recounted in an oral-history memoir which he thought

was locked in an archive); and the Minister of Justice, Mr John Crosbie, for telling reporters that he would not hesitate to do the same thing.

It has probably also been damaged by the sale of one of Canada's two largest aircraft makers, De Havilland of Toronto, to Boeing. The Liberals and the NDP accused the Government of selling out Canadian interests to a foreign company.

However, the Government has given Canadians their money's worth in many fields, including foreign affairs, health and welfare, Indian and northern affairs, transport, and energy and resources, pursuing sound, businesslike policies.

Unemployment is down - although still high at around 10 per cent - and inflation is under reasonable control.

But the business community remains sceptical about the strength of the Government's professed determination to bring the huge budget deficit under control.

It is also waiting to see whether Mr Mulroney will have the will, against mounting domestic opposition, to push through a free-trade deal with the US.



A young Eritrean fighter standing by a Soviet tank which he now operates. It was captured by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front recently in its 25-year struggle for independence against the government in Addis Ababa. Letters, page 13

Australia ordains women as deacons

From Stephen Taylor Sydney

The Anglican Church in Melbourne has ordained Australia's first women deacons despite a constitutional challenge and a bomb scare which disrupted the ceremony.

Eight women were ordained by Dr David Penman, the Archbishop of Melbourne, at St Paul's Cathedral on Sunday after a bomb scare cleared the cathedral of about 1,500 celebrants.

Last August, the General Synod passed a canon by about 90 per cent allowing the ordination of women deacons. A group of 30 have lodged a petition against the canon but it cannot be heard by the appellate tribunal before Judge.

Dr Patricia Brennan, president for the ordination of women, said Sunday was "a joyful day... but the real day of history will come when women are ordained priests".

According to Church sources, that will not occur in Australia for at least three years although there are already women priests in Anglican dioceses in Hong Kong, New Zealand, the United States and Canada.

The Anglican Church in Britain has not yet approved the ordination of women as deacons.

The year of the congresses: Part 1

Gorbachov directs the new East wind

This is the year of congresses in Eastern Europe. The Communist parties of Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Bulgaria and Poland hold their five-yearly congresses to decide future policies, elect new central committees and, this year, trim their sails to the new winds from Moscow.

As ROGER BOYES, East Europe Correspondent, reports in a three-part series, it will be a time of considerable upheaval.

It is, as the Marxists like to say, no coincidence that the first party congress of the year is to be held in the Soviet Union this month. The Gorbachov political choreography will be closely studied by his neighbours: will it be an aggressive congress full of firebrand speeches or ostentatiously free of conflict? How much independence will be given to the delegates? Will Mr Gorbachov have it all his own way?

For the Soviet bloc, three dominant themes are already emerging: the search for a new leadership generation, the shaping of economic reform and the broader question of talking to and motivating the people. Within weeks of the Soviet congress, the Czechoslovak Communists will hold their session on March 24 and this will be followed in April by the East Germans and the Bulgarians and in June by the Poles.

Perhaps the most difficult, and therefore the least conclusive meetings, will be in Prague and Sofia.

Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, long regarded as the most loyal and co-operative of Soviet allies, have suddenly found themselves out of step. In Prague, the leadership of Mr Gustav Husak, who was installed by Brezhnev, owes its existence to his doctrine of "limited sovereignty".

Since 1968 there have been minimal changes in the leadership, Mr Husak has grown old in power, and all talk of reform scatters the Prague ideologues as comprehensively as a shotgun aimed at rabbits.

In Bulgaria, Mr Todor Zhivkov has found his allies in Moscow pensioned off or pushed to the fringes. He needs explainers in Moscow and is finding none. Loud drum-thumping declarations of fidelity are no longer enough. The Gorbachov generation, say Western analysts, thinks that Czechoslovakia has stagnated for too long and is run by a party that has deteriorated accordingly. The purges that followed the 1968 invasion meant replenishing party cadres with mediocre administrators. Now these Communist managers are at worst corrupt, at best inefficient.

The new men in the Kremlin also probably see Bulgaria in a similar light. The Soviet Ambassador in Sofia has publicly criticized Bulgaria's economic performance. Mr Gorbachov was noticeably frigid towards Mr Zhivkov during a visit last October, there is unhappiness about the Westernization of Bulgarian youth, and some harassment about the heavy-handed, sometimes violent, campaign to impose Bulgarian names on the 800,000 Turkish minority. "Too much Balkans," comments an East European Gorbachov sympathizer about the Zhivkov rule, "and too little Lenin."

Both Mr Husak and Mr Zhivkov are well into their seventies but the question is not really one of age - Herr Erich Honecker in East Germany is 80.



Mr Zhivkov: friends in Moscow pensioned off.

Germany is in the same age group rather one of political drift. Not surprisingly, Soviet bloc rumors suggest that Mr Husak may step down as party chief while remaining President, and that Mr Zhivkov will bring up younger men as a first phase before his withdrawal.

Both Hungary, which held its congress last year, and the Soviet Union offer possible precedents. Mr Janos Kadar created a deputy party leader, Mr Karoly Nemeth, who helps to run the Hungarian party and would act as a caretaker in the event of his death. And Mr Gorbachov himself was effectively the deputy to Konstantin Chernenko after losing the struggle to succeed Yuri Andropov.

Two younger fast-lane Politburo members, Mr Obyedkov and Mr Chudomir Aleksandrov, could play this kind of role in Bulgaria or step into the shoes of Mr Grista Filipov, the Prime Minister. In Prague, there are no obvious successors to Mr Husak. The only alternative to paralysis is movement and this strikes fear in the heart of the party.

Tomorrow: Reform or retreat

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PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

India: Jasbir Singh

By Caroline Moorehead

Jasbir Singh is a Sikh preacher in his early thirties, married and the father of one son. Until 1984 he lived in Dubai and worked as a businessman. He is now in prison in northern India, held indefinitely and without trial, the victim of a series of legal misfortunes and false accusations.

In the autumn of 1984 Jasbir Singh, who is a nephew of the late religious leader of the Sikhs, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, came to England to help set up the International Sikh Youth Federation, a predominantly religious and charitable organization. Jasbir Singh is not a man of politics, and is not known to have any links at all with political organizations in India.

He returned to Dubai via Pakistan, where he attended celebrations to mark the anniversary of the birth of the founder of the Sikh religion. When, some months later, he wanted to return to Britain, he was refused entry at Heathrow.

Failing also to obtain permission to return to Dubai, he found himself forcibly sent to India, where he was held in the Red Fort, and tried on a number of charges concerning activities against the state, all of which were subsequently either dismissed or suspended indefinitely. No date has been set for any further hearings.

In the past year, Jasbir Singh has been allowed extremely few visits from his family.

Carter hits out over Nicaragua

Managua (Reuters) - Former US President Jimmy Carter criticized American policy on Nicaragua here, saying that Washington had not fully explored possibilities for a peaceful resolution to their differences.

"Our Government has not done enough to support the Contadora process," Mr Carter said, referring to peace efforts by the four-nation group. Mr Carter said he opposed President Reagan's policy of financing rebels to overthrow the Sandinista government.

"I support fully the position of the Contadora group," he said. The group, made up of Mexico, Colombia, Panama and Venezuela, has advocated the demilitarization of the region.

"This effort should be exhausted first before seeking a military solution."

Mr Carter said that Mr Reagan's policies were gaining the support of US Democratic Party members because of the conflict between the Sandinista Government and the Roman Catholic Church and the imposition of a state of emergency.

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NEWS INTERNATIONAL

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Police siege survivor found guilty

Philadelphia (Reuters) - The only known adult to survive the police bombing of the Move radical group's headquarters last May was convicted by a jury yesterday on charges of riot and conspiracy.

Ramona Africa, aged 30, was given \$200,000 (£132,000) bail and a psychiatric report ordered. She was acquitted of aggravated assault, and resisting arrest. She will be sentenced on April 14.

A police helicopter dropped an explosive device on the radical group's base, killing six adults and five children in the ensuing fire. A gun battle had broken out when the police tried to evict the group from a fortified house in a black middle-class neighbourhood.

Jasbir Singh: a victim of false accusations.

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Uganda's cupboard of skeletons

Years of violence have torn Uganda apart and left thousands dead... and the killing goes on. But can the disciplined former guerrillas of the National Resistance Army end the bloodshed?

They looked like bundles of firewood at first, they were so neatly stacked. Then I saw the skulls. About 30 piled by the side of the road beside what I had taken for firewood: bundles of bones.

It was as if they were awaiting collection lying there at the road junction at the village of Mukono, about 50 miles from Kampala on the Hoima Road. No one in the village spoke English or Swahili; they were either old men, women or children. They were very poor, dressed in rags.

A few miles further, at Ramata, under a huge mango tree in the middle of the village, lay another pile of more than 50 skulls. Children were playing in the dust beside them, quite unconcerned. One of the villagers, Joseph Mayanja, said there were many more in a pit nearby. "Thousands and thousands", as he put it. "We keep them there to remember what happened", he said.

No one will ever know exactly what happened here or just how many died. This is the Luwero triangle where, from 1981 to 1984, Obote's army adopted a policy of genocide against the Baganda villagers. Few who know the area put the total at less than 200,000 dead. Some put it higher, taking into account those who were forced on to trucks and disappeared in army barracks or were massacred and dumped in the swamps, or those who fled into the bush and died of starvation.

To leave the dead unburied breaks every taboo. To collect and stack the bones in the open shows the depth of trauma this peasant society has been through.

The journey from Kampala to Masindi is like a cross-section of Uganda's agony over the past 20 years. It is not simply a horror story, though horror stories abound. The British works manager who lent me his Land-Rover told of one outside his own front door. When Tito Okello's troops realized they were beaten to Kampala on January 25, some of them turned on the political prisoners in Luzira prison and murdered them. They also butchered the women and children camped at the prison gates. Their mutilated bodies, about 100 in all, were thrown into a swamp near the British house. One of the expatriates had taken pictures of them to sell to a British newspaper.

I was told that the direct road to Masindi was still unsafe. Roving bands of Uganda National Liberation Army troops, soldiers of the former regime, were still marauding along it and a Land-Rover would have been a gift to them. So I took the road to Hoima and cut across. The tarmac runs out about 30 miles from Kampala. At one time the road to Hoima was well kept, with two lanes. It was made of murrum - red gravelly earth, graded and rolled, on which one could keep up a steady 50mph in good conditions. Now it could hardly be called a farm track and the Land-Rover had to stay in second gear much of the way to negotiate the pot-holes and ruts.

On each side of the track in the lush green vegetation are deserted huts and



Killing fields: NRA troops examine the corpse of a UNLA soldier

villages. Roofs have been ripped off and windows torn out. The plots surrounding them are overgrown. Many of the trading centres stand empty and broken. At Kiboga, the largest centre on the way to Hoima, a large modern hospital lies abandoned.

In August, after the coup which toppled Obote, people had started to drift back to their homes, but then the killings started again. Fighting broke out between the National Resistance Army and government troops; the latter blamed the villagers and tortured or killed them. The survivors were recruited into the NRA. One villager said: "All the young men are in the NRA or dead".



One villager said: 'All the young men are in the National Resistance Army or they are dead'

At Masindi, the NRA has set up its headquarters at the old district commissioner's house which looks out on the rugby field. Fifteen years ago, Masindi had a rugby side made up of expatriate teachers and aid workers, and the posts are still there.

The Masindi Hotel has had no tourists for 10 years, no electricity for a year and no telephones for three years. It was looted in 1979, in 1984 when the town was briefly occupied by the NRA and the

locals sacked it in the chaos, and in July last year by the Okello troops.

The manager, however, insisted that I filled in the forms and paid \$50 for a dark room with no water. He said he had been trained in France and was an expert on champagne. There is not much call for his knowledge in Masindi. The town survives as a large village. Only a radio at the post office maintains contact with the outside world. It was an administrative centre but, since administration has collapsed, it serves no purpose. Most of the shops were deserted but there was said to be petrol at one station. The attendant could not be found.

Mr David Tinnyefza, commander of the NRA western brigade, is a gentle, confident young man who had studied law at Makerere and was a police cadet before joining the NRA. He was doing a tour of his front line positions and asked me to join him.

It is difficult to remember that the NRA is now the government army; its soldiers, men and women, still have the easy camaraderie of a guerrilla band.

Mr Tinnyefza - it is a civilian army and the officers hold no rank - is greeted with snappy salutes at his front line but chats easily with his men. Not all have uniforms, some are in tattered clothes and some are barefoot, but they are extremely well drilled and disciplined. A western journalist with experience of many African troops described them as the best army in Africa.

Last week he watched astounded as they advanced through a hail of machine-gun fire and an artillery barrage to attack the UNLA at Mbale. The officers stood screaming orders as the young fighters, some of them less than 10 years old, moved forward, one group giving covering fire as another crawled forward on their bellies, all singing their victory songs as they went. The professional

British army-trained UNLA soldiers cracked and fled.

Just north of Masindi the front line soldiers sat and waited, fanned out each side of the road at a dip in the track. They were clearly exhausted but crouched in the elephant grass, checking and rechecking their weapons. They had had skirmishes earlier in the day but the silence in the close afternoon heat was broken only by bird calls.

They knew they were heavily outnumbered by the UNLA force further up the road which also had artillery and other heavy weapons. But Mr Tinnyefza said he would attack as soon as he was ready. The NRA had already recruited four



Not all the soldiers have uniforms and some are in tattered clothes, but they are extremely well drilled

captured UNLA soldiers and put them into the front line. "Do you trust them?" I asked. The commander shrugged. "We know how to use them", he said. Had it been the other way round the men would have been dead. The UNLA does not take prisoners.

Back at Masindi, 302 other prisoners were being kept at a tsetse fly control centre. Fifty were paraded for me and eight stepped forward to identify themselves as Uganda National Rescue Front

men. The UNRF was the west Nile guerrilla group, made up of the remnants of Idi Amin's army which was defeated in 1979. They had fled to Sudan and then tried to fight back by raiding across the border. They made up 700 of the 1,000 troops in Masindi when the NRA captured it two weeks ago.

In July they had been summoned by Tito Okello to come back to Uganda. Publicly it was said that they had been brought back by Okello in July, straight after the coup, and rearmed. This suggests that the coup leaders overthrew Obote not to bring peace and reconciliation as they claimed, but to bring back the former Amin soldiers and unite them with UNLA to defeat the NRA. The peace talks in Nairobi between the NRA and the military council, which ended at Christmas, may have been no more than a sham to buy time to get the Amin soldiers into position.

Major Felix Moyima, the only captured UNRF officer, would not speculate on this but he said: "At one time the UNRF and NRA used to fight side by side against Obote. What I don't understand is that something changed and we were brought back to face the NRA. It was our leaders who took the decision. I was told that if we tried to join the NRA they would kill us."

A tall tough soldier from Madi, west Nile, Major Moyima was recruited into the Kings African Rifles in 1960 and had been a professional soldier until 1979. Now he said he just wanted peace and an agreement with the NRA so he had surrendered to it. The NRA said it trusted him and had put him up at its expense at the hotel. He was free to go home or join them, it said.

Significantly, four of the six UNLA officers captured were from the west. They had nowhere to run to so they had thrown themselves on the mercy of the NRA. They, too, were being housed in the hotel even though the NRA might see them as double traitors, since it is primarily made up of westerners.

One of them, Augustine Kamanyire, a young lieutenant, said he had simply served the country by being in the army. "We were just trying to protect people", he said dejectedly when I asked him about the bones in the villages. "Discipline had completely disintegrated in the UNLA." You have the impression the UNLA committed atrocities? "Yes, they happened, but a junior officer could say nothing to the soldiers. Especially if you are from the west and you criticized them, they said you were an NRA supporter. If I complained to the senior officers they did nothing. They supported their soldiers to what they did."

In Masindi that night there was a disco, the first one in living memory. The youth of the town turned out but danced in an inhibited, restrained way as if they were out of practice. Their happiness, nevertheless, was palpable. In a dark open-air courtyard under a brilliant night sky they swayed to Bronski Beat and the Thompson Twins.

Among the dancers were young NRA fighters, their guns strapped to their backs, many dancing together. They made no attempt to move in on the local girls and there was no bar so no one got drunk. I remember a similar dance in 1971 soon after Amin took over. The organizers had ejected a drunken army major who was causing trouble. Within minutes he had returned with his men and started shooting. The dance hall had emptied. Ever after, the arrival of soldiers at a dance marked its end. What a different army this is.

Richard Dowden

A natural recipe for food

Down in Ambridge, radio home of Britain's most famous farming family, Tony Archer has harvested his first crop of organically-grown carrots. No doubt his progress is being closely watched by a fellow farmer, the Prince of Wales, who has expressed a keen interest in chemical-free crops.

The fertilizer and pesticides which have become an accepted part of modern farming are frowned upon by the organic movement, which prefers manure and other natural methods. Crops are rotated to get maximum benefit from the soil: animals and chickens are allowed a freedom which their battery-bred cousins would envy, and are usually fed on a home-produced diet.

Years ago the organic farmer would have been regarded as a harmless eccentric. Today, the eating revolution he has created is changing the face of the high street.

The chairman of British Organic Farmers, Mr Patrick Holden, says: "Farming is in a state of crisis. Farmers have worked to a goal of producing as much food as possible without consideration for the squandering of natural resources."

"In the last year the public has become more demanding and concerned with quality."

Despite its growth in popularity, organic produce still accounts for less than half of one per cent of national output and is not expected to reach the 20 per cent mark for another 10 years. So with demand heavily exceeding supply, natural food producers can ask high prices.



The cause is being promoted by a number of specialist organizations including the Soil Association, the 1,000-member British Organic Farmers and its sister organization, the Organic Growers Association. The latter two harness the latest technology and marketing methods to give a commercial edge to what have previously been seen as well-meaning amateurs.

The movement is symbolized by the circular symbol of the Soil Association, either in a shop window, a farm shop door, or on the packaging of jams or cereals. The logo appears on David and Janet Mullen's shop in Holloway Road, north London, and is the only indication from outside that the shop is any different from the conventional butcher a few doors down. But the Mullens run one of just a handful of organic butchers in London.

They started it with their savings three years ago; other traders gave them six months, but turnover has risen by 700 per cent.

"I spent 30 years as a traditional butcher", said Mr Mullen. "And I became increasingly fed up with the quality of meat I had to serve. I don't care for some of the ways our cattle and chickens are so intensively reared and kept."

"When I cut up this carcass of beef you can see the natural brightness of the meat and fat. Look at the texture too; it cuts like a dream. It also tastes totally different because the animal has been humanely slaughtered. A frightened animal sends natural hormones racing through its body and this results in tougher meat."

The shopper probably won't find organic chicken or steak in the supermarket yet, but may be able to buy vegetables.

Soil Association, British Organic Farmers and Organic Growers Association are all at 86/88 Colston Street, Bristol. (0272 299666)

Suzanne Greaves

Starting a transatlantic cut-price airline was a bumpy flight for the founder

Flying with a wing and a prayer

Randolph Fields, the American-born founder of Highland Express, Britain's latest cut-price transatlantic airline, can trace his fascination with flying precisely to when he was nine and newly-arrived in England from California.

He was in Cambridge with his mother, a philosophy post-graduate, and wanted to fly back to be with his father in Los Angeles.

Highland Express, the launch of which was announced yesterday, starts operations in June after three years of planning. It is only one of several airlines he has tried launching. But it was thoughts of the young "rucksack" market that led him to the Virgin Entertainment group and its enterprising founder, Richard Branson, who invested £1 million. Virgin-Atlantic took off in June 1984 with Fields aboard as chairman.

It proved a bumpy ride, however. There were boardroom battles, his shareholding was beaten down from 50 to 25 per cent, and Branson took over.

Ironically, he is helping launch Highland Express with the pay-off, exactly £1,730,512. He denies that he is now going to take on his former colleagues, but he will still undercut Virgin Atlantic's prices. His top price, for a single economy ticket during summer weekends, will be £169. Virgin charges £189.

Fields is 33, rather round and boyish, and disarmingly droll when it suits him. Hippy friends from the 1960s would not recognize him. At 13 he was a flower child in a commune in the Ball's Pond Road, Hackney.

Without it qualifications, he seems to have talked his way into University College, London, where he studied philosophy, followed by law at the Polytechnic of Central Lon-



Ready for take-off: Randolph Fields, man with his head in the clouds

don: a legal problem with his flat got him interested. A barrister by 1980, he then established a profitable practice between London and Los Angeles in commercial insurance litigation.

Field really started in the airline business after the collapse of Laker, as a disgruntled consumer who thought he could do better. After six months with Virgin, he returned to a cool reception at his law practice. His associates left, taking clients with them.

He has since rebuilt his business acting for American Railroads. Yet benevolently everything takes second place to running Highland Express, his own show at last.

But without Branson's money it has been a struggle. A year ago the CAA praised his scheme, then turned him down on financial grounds. At his CAA financial hearing on January 30, he put up £4 million from his own pocket, small investors and various

Scottish grants, but at the last hour had to raise an extra £1 million in the City.

The job in prospect is no easier. Highland Express will be the first transatlantic service from British regional airports for some years. British Airways could not make it work. Laker went bust. Fields is putting his faith in low fares; a small, diligent work force of about 200; a second-hand but refurbished Boeing 747 costing only \$19 million; and regional airports whose cheaper operating costs can knock £20 off a ticket.

He has probably saved the ailing Prestwick from closure. For Highland Express to succeed, he needs to return the loyalty of passengers from Scotland and the Midlands - as much as half the demand in Birmingham.

If he fails, he laughs, he will seek consolation in silk-reeking or join the police force.

Michael Watts

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- Steeper (8)
- Climbing front (7)
- Type (5)
- Red cheese (4)
- Follow rules (6)

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- Intended (5)
- Be in debt (3)
- Children's verse writer (7,6)
- Decree point (4)
- Witness pioneer (7)
- Marriage later (10)
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FASHION by Suzy Menkes

That was the week that was in London: new shops, new faces, new ideas

OPENINGS

Victor Edelstein has arrived. He showed a young and sophisticated collection, cut with a light hand and heart. Tender draping, discreet embroidery, witty bow trims and some very good cutting all softened a line that was uncompromisingly slim. This was modern couture in the way that it is being shown in Paris. It should give Edelstein a bright fashion future under his own name and in the ready-to-wear collection he is designing for Norman Hartnell from next season.

The chic audience, seated in the rococo gilded salon in the Cafe Royal last week, included the young upper crust who are Edelstein's clientele. Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones, in shell pink leggings and gilt, long navy coat and flat boxer boots, sat beside her father, Lord Snowdon (in tweed jacket and brown brogues). Also in the audience were the dark-haired Countess of Snowdon, and Lady Solti taking her teenage daughter to her first fashion show.

A riding coat, waisted and with a swirl of fabric over a slim, knee-length skirt, was the strongest day-time line. Waists were defined with contrast panels of fabric, with ruching or insets on perky spotted silk dresses or columns of crepe slithering from a wide shoulder-line.

Edelstein shines at night, but out with the glitter and decoration so often used to cover lack of technical skill. Swaddling bands of draped chiffon, in aqua blue, saffron yellow or discreet navy, received loud applause from an audience that understands what it pays for. Slim strapless evening dresses, in rich cardinal red or deep fuchsia, had three inset panels at the back so that the skirt flared into a mermaid's tail of fabric.

These grown-up dresses, designed on the curve but never to cling, seem tailor-made for Edelstein's most glamorous model, the Princess of Wales, and the audience looked expectantly for a royal appearance. But the fashion Princess, who has already set a trend by moving from off-the-peg to couture dressing, had slipped into the Cafe Royal earlier to the dress rehearsal of the show.



Victor Edelstein focuses on the waist with shapely printed silk dress and inset midriff panel, worn with traditional couture accessories of gloves and low-crowned straw hat



A creamy collar, fresh in pique, whipped into a flurry of pleats and off the shoulders, was the strongest story in Belville Sassoon's spring collection. All ages, from junior Sloanes with plaid-and-white faces to be-powdered crumples, were in the audience. The clothes reflected this broad span. Newest were the shapely suits with short skirts ("He wants us to show our legs", said a doubtful dowager). White damask jackets teamed with navy taffeta à la Chanel (left) looked good and so did sarong wrap skirts in chintz. Safer were linen suits in the inevitable pink and turquoise. An exotic Ballet Russe print, black with white, and graceful pleating gave an international touch to very English style.

Ye olde American in London

Ralph Lauren, the American designer whose inspiration comes from the best of old England, is buying up our stately shops. The old Savory and Moore pharmacy in Bond Street, lovingly restored by Lauren into its old mahogany glory, is proving to be a base for colonization. Ralph Lauren has now bought the next-door building which will be knocked through and used to house an extended range of women's wear, the Polo-menswear and, ultimately, children's clothes and the covetable home furnishings. The enlarged shop will open after refurbishments at the end of this year.

Across the water, the bastion of all that is British - Thomas Cook at the Madeleine in Paris - has also fallen to Ralph Lauren. A major face-lift for the one-time home of the Baedeker and British Railways is being restored and refitted as Lauren's European show-place. The Ralph Lauren shop, on two floors with a showroom above, is scheduled to open during the French fashion week in March.

A more traditional New York empire is building in Britain this year. Tiffany, the jeweller of Fifth Avenue, will be opened in June by Audrey Hepburn (who else?). A midsummer ball will be followed by breakfast at Tiffany's (what else?).

Nick Brown

Joseph's village variety

A line-up of brightly be-wigged Tina Turner clones paraded the new Joseph Tricot collection. We have yet to see these acid bright mini-skirts and Day-glo wigs in "Joseph's Village" but his corner at the end of London's Fulham Road is already starting the Sloanes. Two new shops and a chic cafe have opened in the last fortnight.

Joe's Cafe at 126 Draycott Avenue offers cappuccino and a croissant from the shiny mirrored bar.

Pour la Maison at number 124 sells sleek black or grey accessories and furnishings, with black and white polka dots on silk house robes.

The Tina Turner mini-skirts and cropped sweaters (pictured left) will be filling the shiny chrome rails of Joseph Tricot at number 130. Handknitted cotton sweaters and cardigans from £200 hang with the prestige buy of the season: a cherub-patterned sweater for £1,000.

Rebecca Tyrrel

EAST MEETS SOUTH-WEST



Next week, Japanese fashion gains a new sandal-hold in London. Designer Rei Kawakubo (above), who started a fashion revolution in shape and texture five years ago, will open her own Comme des Garçons shop. It will be at 115 Fulham Road at the new plate glass heart of funky fashion in south-west London.

The Comme shop will sell men's and women's clothes in the minimalist environment well-suited to sombre shrouds. But Japanese fashion has moved on since its earlier outrageous days. The line has come much closer to the body, with fitted dresses and jackets, traditional western skills of pleating and shirring, and strong colours breaking through the gloom.

Meanwhile, Issey Miyake, the first designer to colonize SW3 with his Plantation shop, unveils the new spring collection this morning. Miyake's flagship store is to Sloane Street, where Joseph will turn over his emporium at 6a to Yoshi Yamamoto from next month.

The Mink Coat of the Year at Harrods

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THE TIMES DIARY

Footnote on Benn

If Mrs Thatcher is losing sleep over the forthcoming memoirs of Jim Prior (Diary yesterday), so indeed will Tony Benn over another forthcoming publication. Although he might not know it, his old sparring partner Michael Foot has included a vitriolic chapter about him in a book out next month, Loyalists and Lovers. Allow me to bring him a taster from a sneak look at the book: as leader of the opposition, Foot says, he urged Benn in "one of our talks in my shadow cabinet office" to help Labour's national executive and the party at large. Foot asked Benn to "call off the pre-executive caucus meetings or at least to mitigate their operation, to stop the rigid pre-arranged votes which prohibited real discussion". Foot told Benn it would "give us a renewed chance to let the executive perform its proper function: to prepare to fight the Tory enemy". In response, Foot claims, Benn "shook his head as if to deny that any such effective caucus existed and when I persisted with the charge he persisted with the denial. So I called him a liar and he got up and left."

Priorities

Two cartoons passed to a Tory whip's office wall neatly illustrating the government's problems with its increasingly recalcitrant lobby fodder. In the first, the chief whip appeals to an MP: "Be reasonable, man. Where would we be if everybody had to go to their wife's funeral?" In the second, the whip, now on his knees, is told by the MP: "Terribly sorry, old chap. I can't stay. Got a very important dinner party to go to."

BARRY FANTONI



'Two twos are ten, two tens are one hundred.'

Missing link

Unhappy news awaits the Archbishop of Canterbury when he returns from his trip to India. His first school in Coronation Road, Crosby, Liverpool, has been closed on "rationalization" grounds and the local education authority is offering the red-brick building for sale. "Dr Runcie will be very sad," a Lambeth Palace spokesman told me. "He much enjoyed meeting his old teacher when he went back a couple of years ago - although reports that she spanked him were rather exaggerated."

Palace of variety

As if the Royal Albert Hall has not been through enough recently, tomorrow the Westland board tents it again to confront the usual teeming mass of shareholders (at least Alan Bristow's) and on Friday week Belgian director Jan Fabre presents The Power of Theatrical Madness - a controversial piece that first wowed them at the ICA in the Mall. The four-and-a-half-hour show involves smashing crockery, a simulated massacre of frogs, and four naked men picking up four fully clothed women and dropping them 30 times. What would Victoria have made of it?

Cross purposes

The Oxford Union natches up another coup this Saturday when it welcomes the Spanish prime minister, Felipe Gonzalez. There are two small problems: Gonzalez scarcely speaks a word of English and no one knows what he intends to speak about.

Lenin's way

Channel tunnel champions have an unlikely ally in Lenin. Alan Brien, who is ploughing through Lenin's works for his forthcoming book Lenin The Novel, stumbled upon an article of 1913 in which Lenin says, talking of Britain and France: "...Yet the richest and most civilized and free-states in the world are now, with fear and trembling, discussing, out by any means for the first time, the difficult question: is it possible to build a tunnel under the English channel?" He goes on to say the engineers can do it; the money is there; there are no doubts about profitability. "What is holding up the affair, then? Is England afraid of...invasion?" Long before the days of Sealink, he also says: "A number of capitalists who stand to lose good business by the building of the tunnel are doing their very best to thwart this plan and hold up technical progress... The Englishmen's fear of the tunnel is self-interest, capitalist barbarism is stronger than civilization."

PHS

Robert Fisk on the conflicts born of Aden's perverted Marxism

Aden Over the past week, mass graves have been uncovered in Aden which the Yemeni government would rather not talk about. There have been no guided visits for foreign correspondents to the scene of the massacres, nor has any mention of them appeared in October Fourteenth, the Yemeni socialist party's organ of Marxist truth.

The people of Aden are not encouraged to talk about them in the way that they are when, for instance, evidence comes to light of the atrocities of the ousted president, Ali Nasser Mohamed. But they can hardly be unaware of the truth.

At the end of last week, for example, a truckload of bloated corpses was driven past the damaged naval barracks on Steamer Point. The driver was clasping a handkerchief to his face; arms and legs hung over the lorry's tail-board; pedestrians turned away in horror.

A few hours later, someone discovered an arm protruding from the ground in a parking lot in the Malla district of Aden. Residents began digging and found seven bodies, all apparently shot in the head. Then a small guided party to a garbage tip a few hundred yards away, where they uncovered another 33 bodies. Party officials quickly arrived to clear the area.

The few diplomats who stayed on in Aden during last month's carnage already had a grim idea of what would be found. Up to 3,000 people - most of them militiamen or party officials - had been killed, it was said. Yet the hospitals received only 400 wounded; the first time in recent Middle East conflicts that the dead have outnumbered the injured.

For the truth is that the new Marxist regime has ruthlessly liquidated its party opponents, every bit as systematically as Ali Nasser Mohamed tried to purge his enemies on January 13. Official guides are happy enough to take journalists to the tip of Aden's volcanic crater high above the Red Sea to show them the grisly remains of Ali Nasser's slaughtered opponents. But they quickly silenced a party militiaman up in the town of Lawdar when he tried to tell about other acts of butchery. "When Ali Nasser's people had failed, our armed elements killed them when we found them," he managed to say, before being told to shut his mouth.

An Aden resident said, with a fearful sort of respect, "We all know the truth. But it's too early to look at."

When at last the images become clear, albeit through the refracted vision of South Yemen's own tired definition of "scientific socialism", a familiar picture will emerge. For the butchery of the past four weeks within this people's democratic republic has provided yet another deeply depressing example of the failure of an Arab state to organize itself into a just and humane nation in the post-colonial world.

Publicly, we are supposed to believe that the regime of Ali Nasser Mohamed was overthrown because of ideological imperfections, as exposed at October's third congress of the Yemeni socialist party. In reality, the reasons were more prosaic. The party hierarchy around Ali Nasser had begun to fit themselves up with the accoutrements of power: chauffeur-driven cars, free importation of foreign luxuries, tax-free salaries, and bodyguards more loyal to tribe than to party.

To some extent, even Ali Nasser's opponents - in particu-

lar Abdul Fatah Ismail - shared in the good life, settling into the spacious old wooden homes of British army officers.

Ali Nasser enjoyed the privacy of the former British military mess above Steamer Point. In his kitchen there were the finest wine glasses; he played table tennis in the conservatory overlooking Rambo beach between bouts of chewing qat, the mint-like Yemeni plant that is used to stimulate the energy in the stifling heat of the Red Sea.

Ali Nasser's home, when we saw it last week, was equipped with an odd array of unproprietarian goods: fake Louis XVI furniture, American-made telephones and cassette tapes of Tchaikovsky symphonies.

Yet Ismail's own residence was one of the gracious villas built for Royal Navy officers on a tree-fringed peninsula above the harbour. His driveway was still littered last week with the gutted wreckage of modern limousines; in his garden were burned wicker sofas among the bougainvillea. Up here, talk of the party's "corrective movement", of Marxist sacrifice and loyalty, had a quality all its own.

Within this elite setting, some of the conflicts that surfaced during the guerrilla war against the British in the 1960s began to re-emerge: arguments not about freedom but about uniformity and about South Yemen's role within the Arab world. Ali Nasser, for example, gained

greater personal support from the Soviet Union because he acted as a messenger between Moscow and Oman, between the Russians and the Saudis.

The Russians realized that he relied upon the tribes of his own province of Abyan for protection, while his former colleagues in the independence movement - men such as Saleh Muslim Qassim, the defence minister murdered last month, and Saleh Saleh Mohamed, the politburo member likely to become the new dictator - found themselves increasingly excluded from the privileges and the prestige of political power.



Why an Arab revolution devours itself

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They resented Ali Nasser's flirtation with the leaders of pro-Moscow Palestinian guerrilla movements - which is one reason why they turned down Soviet attempts to mediate in the civil war, efforts which were in fact prompted by Palestinians rather than by the Russians.

Their hatreds were locked into the sterile grammar of doctrinaire Marxist thought, itself perverted by the artificial way it has been grafted on to a tribal, Islamic nation. The Yemenis are a vibrant, intelligent people, ultimately uninfluenced by the rhetoric of those who rule them; and their leaders are cut off from their own people.

This is perhaps why the civilian population was comparatively untouched by last month's bloodshed. Again and again, it transpires, militiamen

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Abdul Fatah Ismail, politburo man, officially declared dead



Ali Nasser Mohamed: a president becomes 'the great traitor'

Will the man of peace triumph over Reagan's war?

regional conflicts and gradual militarization. The evidence includes clandestine operations by armed Nicaraguan contras, US military aid and training for the police and the civilian militia, and a daily barrage of anti-Sandinista stories in the local press.

For the first time in Costa Rica's history, peace was the main issue in the presidential contest. Dr Oscar Arias won because he vigorously declared himself to be the "peace" candidate.

The divisions between Costa Rican public opinion and US strategy are clearly drawn. According to public opinion analyst Victor Ramirez, the polls consistently show that while Costa Ricans are overwhelmingly anti-communist and anti-Sandinista, more than 80 per cent support the policy of neutrality, oppose recreating an army, do not believe that the Sandinistas pose a threat, and do not want Costa Rica used as a base for attacking Nicaragua.

In contrast, US intentions were

spelt out last year in a State Department draft report leaked to the press. It said that a militarized Costa Rica "would help shift... the political balance in our (the US) favour on Nicaragua's southern flank".

In speeches since his victory, Arias has reflected public sentiment by vowing to prevent armed contras from using Costa Rica and pledging actively to take part in regional dialogue.

But even as he spoke, anti-Sandinista leaders based here were trying to improve their image with liberals by holding talks with both ex-US president Jimmy Carter and a delegation from the Socialist International. The contras are vowing to end their squabbles and form a united southern front along the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border.

While this may help them to secure US congressional passage of President Reagan's proposed \$100 million aid package to the contras, it is certain to make Arias's enforcement of neutrality more difficult. Despite their factionalism, the several thou-



sand contras operating in southern Nicaragua already have a well-developed supply system through Costa Rica. They are helped by a chain of Costa Rican officials, border guards and businessmen, backed by the US embassy.

According to contra and Costa Rican sources, the presence of the CIA has grown considerably in the last few years and it now has a strong influence over the media. According to an American mercenary, one Nicaraguan group runs a terrorist ring which plans to "wreak havoc along the border" and so create a war between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. In the event of conflict, the US is on record as pledging to go to Costa Rica's defence.

His other problems apart, Arias is certain to face an increasingly militant ultra-right. In recent months members of the right-wing taxi drivers union and the neo-fascist Free Costa Rica movement have stoned the Nicaraguan embassy and attacked international peace marchers. Free Costa Rica has influential supporters, including several media executives, and its rank and file members have been receiving military training in the government's national reserve force.

In terms of the economy, Arias faces a \$4.5 billion foreign debt, one of the highest per capita in the world. His announcement that he will renegotiate the terms of payment, along with his pledges to build 80,000 new houses, find 25,000 new jobs annually and provide land for the landless, are likely to antagonize the US, the IMF and local businessmen.

But with a number of unpopular austerity measures already adopted and revenues up thanks to rising coffee prices, the economy has improved somewhat. Therefore, as in the election campaign, Arias's main issues after he takes office in May are likely to be peace and neutrality.

Martha Honey

Roger Scruton

Science with no time for facts

Thanks to Keynes, with his cocksure advice, his pseudo-scientific rigour, his political influence, social position and philosophical austerities, economics became the teacher of politics, and the professor of the new-fangled subject became the master of those who govern us.

The mixture of sound common sense and tentative social philosophy which our ancestors knew as "political economy" was replaced by a brazen science whose exponents tend to advance, like Keynes, from a minimum of observation and by prancing steps of a priori argument, to conclusions which pre-empt the art of government. Thence has arisen the breed of "economic advisers", promising final answers to questions which, because they are political, should never be answered finally.

When Keynes gave way to Friedman this appeared a victory of common sense over speculation - and so it would have been, had not "Friedmanism" been invented, as a similar comprehensive solution, just as over-bold. Once again the problem of unemployment was treated theoretically, with little consciousness that the theories are both sketchy in themselves and more the consequences of political attitudes than the "scientific" grounds for them.

And plain facts which have no place in the theory were again passed over as irrelevant. But consider some of the facts. Consider, for example, the decline of discipline at home and school; the destruction of the core educational curriculum; the dwindling of literacy; the growing contempt for individual responsibility and for the ethic of work. The net result of this must surely be to make a large number of teenagers not merely unemployed but also unemployable.

Or consider the bureaucratic restrictions on the wage contract; the unjust taxation (through "social security" payments) placed on everyone who wishes to hire another; the difficulty of dismissing an employee who turns out to be useless. The net result is that it is often crazy to employ someone, even when the work is there. Or consider the fact that many people do not want to work, or prefer to remain officially unemployed, while collecting tax-free payments for casual labour. If you mention such facts as a major cause of unemployment, socialists will condemn you as a demon, while economists will dismiss you as an amateur.

But it is difficult to have confidence in economists so long as their ardent divisions of opinion are more like *edum theologicum* than scientific debate. At least, if economics is a science, and can aspire to an authority that all people should recognize, whatever their political outlook, it is a very young science, and one whose conclu-

sions should never be advanced dogmatically nor adhered to unconditionally.

If economists in advisory positions behave more like magicians than like scientists, it is because "the power of their 'science' depends, like the power of sympathetic magic, on the disposition of people to believe in it. In which case, their scientific pretensions should be taken with a pinch of salt.

No consequence of the sovereignty of economics is more dangerous than the destruction of the morality of money. Moral sense permits us to transcend self-interest and short-sightedness for the species' sake. Traditional fiscal morality has therefore proved more beneficial in the long run than the mumbo-jumbo that so often drowns its counsels. And if "monetarism" is appealing it is not, I believe, because of its scientific credentials, but because of its moral truth. It reminds us that the state, which mediates through money in all our transactions, is under a duty not to tax us illegitimately by debasing the coin of the realm.

When theory defies the moral sense, however, it should not be listened to. During the 1960s economists persuaded themselves that the theory of Keynes applied not only to the political economy of every nation state but also to the "international economy". Underdevelopment, over-saving and economic stagnation could therefore be cured at once, so they thought, by "recycling" dollars to nations which had never shown the slightest ability either to invest them wisely or to spend them well. Bankers listened to the economists, and the result will soon be catastrophic.

Common morality tells us that prudence is a virtue, and that trust should never be exploited nor betrayed. It would have reminded the banker that the dollars which he loaned to governments that had not given the slightest evidence of their probity were not his to lend, that he held them in trust, to invest wisely on behalf of clients to whom he was answerable, and that the only security for an investment is proof of a return.

It is precisely such self-evident moral truth that the pseudo-scientific language of international Keynesianism ("recycling", "pump-priming", the "world economic order") is designed to obscure. Once the economic advisers entered the scene and "demoralized" the problem, the meagre store of common sense was dissipated and madness triumphed in "scientific" form.

We may not be able to solve the problem of unemployment but perhaps we could at least understand it were we to refuse the terms which economists recommend to us and to trust instead the language of morality. The author is editor of the Salisbury Review.

moreover... Miles Kingdon

Relax in exotic Costashire

Every now and then there comes a technical breakthrough so revolutionary that it changes the way we live, yet so simple that you wonder why nobody thought of it before. The submarine, in shipping. The Fosbury Flop, in high jumping. The tea bag, in drain clearance. The credit card, in scraping ice off car windows. And now a British firm has made an equivalent breakthrough in the world of holidays - the video vacation.

Until now, it has always been believed that to take a foreign holiday you had to go away somewhere. Videovac of Cheltenham has challenged this with the idea that instead of going away on holiday, you can have the holiday brought to you. It's cheaper, safer and just as satisfying, says their PR officer, Adrian Wardour-Streets.

"Here's how it works," said Adrian, as we shared a pina colada in Cheltenham's trendy Lagoon cocktail bar. "You want a sunny fortnight on the Costa Guana. But you don't want to pay through the nose, you don't want to be surrounded by tourists and you don't want lots of greasy food. So we bring the sun lamps to your house, we put on tapes of flamenco music and, above all, we supply the videos for you to watch and get you in the mood."

Documentary films about Spain? Or Spanish feature films dubbed in English?

"Good Lord, no, nothing like that. We have specially prepared tapes showing hour after hour of waves gently coming in on the beach, or palm trees blowing in the warm wind. It's the equivalent of background music, really - background scenery. You sit there in your own room, basking in the heat and the Spanish ambience, yet with all the home comforts you normally miss so desperately on holiday.

"At a stroke we have eliminated all the things that people hate about holidays - the trudge to the beach, the battle with currency, the surly waiters, and above all the dreary travelling. Now, at a third of the price, you can have all the best things about a holiday and none of the worst. When your holiday begins, you're

already there - not en route to Luton Airport!"

But surely the main thing about a holiday is actually being somewhere else, somewhere foreign and different?

"Don't you believe it," said Adrian, as we slid into Cheltenham's trendy Poissonerie for some mussels and Chablis. "Most Britons hate being abroad, they only go for the sun. Otherwise, they like it to be as British as possible, with Watney's and English Spoken Here. And what could be more British than your own home? We at Videovac create the illusion of being abroad, but the reality is always the one you know and like best."

"Remember, too, how home-oriented people are on holiday, always looking for gifts for relations, writing endless postcards, scurrying around for English newspapers. We remove all that anxiety. We buy your gifts, write your cards - and have the Spanish papers delivered every day! I think, quite honestly, that you are more aware of abroad when you are at home. Personally, I'd rather sit at home reading Ian Morris on Spain than actually go to Spain, which is always something of a disappointment by contrast."

Videovac's Spanish holidays start from £50 for a fortnight. Their Fortnight in Australia comes at only £40, while their most expensive holiday, By Steam Train Through Europe and Asia, is still only £75, with complete video coverage of the route.

"Just imagine steaming all day through China," says Adrian, "then popping down the pub in the evening to tell everyone where you've been. Marvellous!"

But does he really think the illusion can be maintained in any satisfying way? "Listen - we've just spent a lovely hour in France, thanks to the ambience of the Poissonerie. Before that, we had a quick half hour in the palm-fringed Pacific, thanks to the Lagoon. I don't remember you complaining about either. Oh, yes, the illusion works all right. Now, who's for a quick after-lunch julep in Cheltenham's trendy Kentucky Club?"

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.



1 Pennington Street, London E1. Telephone 01 481 4100

THE TRIDENT TEST

The concern felt by Vickers shipbuilders over the likely impact on the Trident programme of a Labour victory at the next general election, illustrates graphically the risks that the Government faces when its unity and resolve fall into doubt. The tough contractual negotiations and the delay in the order of the first submarine are not damaging to the project in themselves. Vickers management would be failing in its duty if they did not seek to secure the best possible guarantees in the event of cancellation. But Britain's decision at the start of the decade to purchase Trident-2 as the country's next nuclear deterrent, remains a sound one - although now unfashionable. The aim of Whitehall should be to make cancellation more, not less, difficult as the months float by.

Trident-2 is an expensive option. It is not, as the Government is fond of recalling, as expensive as the Tornados, aircraft procurement. It is true that it is absorbing only three per cent of the defence budget over the procurement period of 15 to 17 years - or six per cent during its peak spending years. But its share of the equipment budget ranges from six to 11 per cent and, as the SDP argues in yesterday's policy document, it will be swallowing nearly a third of the ministry's new equipment funds by around 1990.

So far the programme costs have been quite well contained - any revisions of estimates being largely the product of inflation. The United States estimates are unlikely to rise significantly, if only because the US funding system tempts the administration to ask Congress for more money than it needs. But £10bn is still a lot of money at a time when the government has little to give away and the armed forces are preparing to submit claims for a number of more conventional weapons projects, without which their operational efficiency might well be impaired. Trident has an "opportunity cost" impinging upon the defence programme, which no minister could unblushingly deny.

Much more important, however, are the consistently argued arguments for Britain retaining a strate-

gic deterrent that will give Western Europe an additional guarantee in wartime - complementing not replacing the protective umbrella which is held over our heads by the United States. There are those who argue that peace has been preserved since 1945 in spite of, rather than because of, the vast accumulation of nuclear weapons on both sides. But so far, with the current mix of weapons, peace has been maintained. To take Britain out of the nuclear equation at this stage would be an irresponsible leap into the dark.

The argument of those who say that Britain should spend the £10bn on conventional forces instead - a popular theme in the forces themselves - is very questionable. Conventional forces are in relative terms more expensive and would add only marginally to the defensive capabilities of Western Europe. If more conventional troops in Europe are required, it makes more sense for other Nato countries to provide them, leaving Britain to supply the next generation deterrent as its own unique contribution to allied security.

Another much advertised alternative is to retain Polaris into the next century, updating it to enable it still to penetrate enemy defences - perhaps space-based defences? One might even develop a British successor, founded on our knowledge of Polaris and our own not inconsiderable experience of warhead design. This would be possible, but would it be cheaper? The four Polaris submarines will need replacing in the 1990s anyway - and the new boats account for roughly half of the Trident programme's costs. Moreover the money expended on developing the Chevaline warhead under the Polaris improvement programme in the 1970s, was a sobering reminder of the high risk of nuclear technology. Britain might, it is true, link up with the French. But French enthusiasm for an Anglo-French deterrent, with Britain providing the warhead and France the ballistic missile, has been less than obvious.

The other main option is the cruise missile. There might indeed come a time when this would seem to be the preferred alternative. But the time is not now. All that

one knows at present would suggest that the safest environment in which to hide one's deterrent remains the sea. But estimates of how many the Royal Navy would need to have at sea at any one time to match the deterrent power of one Trident submarine, range between 300 and 400. Even if one could queue 80 on to each boat, one is still thinking in terms of four boats at sea at one time - and more than twice as many to maintain that kind of perpetual presence.

Cruise missiles moreover would represent again a new technology for British Aerospace (despite its enthusiasm to explore it) and fresh operating techniques for the navy. This is not to say that either industry or the navy would fail to meet the challenge. But it makes the cruise missile option another high risk area - whose costs could all too easily surpass those of Trident.

Trident-2 endows Britain with more capability than it actually needs. Its range, the number of its independent warheads, takes this country into the next generation of nuclear deterrence rather more quickly - and less equivocally - than the Government might have wished. But by switching with the Americans from the original purchase of Trident-1 to the more capable Trident-2, Britain has retained commonality with the United States - sharing the facilities and operational experience of the superpower in a manner which reduces both the development risks and the maintenance costs of the system. The sophistication of the missile too gives Britain a margin which, with the advance of technology, one might come to accept as essential.

As the Government draws close to the peak spending period (only three per cent of the sum had been spent by the end of last year) it is right that the procurement should provoke a vigorous debate in Britain - and unsurprisingly that the industry involved in it should show concern. But the doubts and worries should not deter either Westminster or Whitehall from pushing ahead with the programme.

Making life easier for disabled

From Dr Robert Wigglesworth
Sir, Your Social Services Correspondent, Nicholas Timmins, wrote (January 28) about the Government-appointed inquiry into the health service's system of supplying artificial limbs and wheelchairs to the disabled. This committee, chaired by Professor Ian McColl, raised some very important points in prosthetic medicine.

The stories quoted in the report of considerably delayed delivery of limbs and difficulties in fitting leave many elderly amputees, whose numbers nowadays are very large, frustrated and demoralised, ending with an artificial limb which remains unused in the corner of the room, not to mention the depression in trying to face up to a much more difficult lifestyle.

I think a lot of the trouble here is prosthetic limbs which, although perfect from an engineering point of view, are too cumbersome, heavy and ungainly for an old or frail person to learn to use, especially when their other limb and body have been allowed to lose their use for weeks or months in delays and frustrations.

One answer for old and frail people is to go back to something simpler and lighter in the early stages of fitting, something like the old pensioners' pylon, made in modern light but strong materials. Above all, the modern

unsightly heavy metal pylon with its metal frame and its 1lb-plus block of wood rocker should go. Although it is not always possible to older people to choose a below-knee or through-knee amputation, it is easier to learn to use an artificial limb with these than with an above-knee amputation.

I agree with the report that those long journeys of 40 miles and more to limb-fitting centres cause more harm than when the visit does good in many of the frailer patients.

Clearly all is not well and improvements must be attempted. I think it is most important to realise that this does not always mean spending large sums of money and building up a larger bureaucracy. The primary relationship is between the patient, an experienced limb surgeon, an experienced limb physician, the all-important limb fitter and the physiotherapist.

I think it is also vital to rethink the service for older persons, the majority of amputees these days, and concentrate upon speedier service and simpler, lighter less-complicated limbs in the early days and weeks of limb fitting. Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WIGGLESWORTH,
Freston House,
Cranford St John,
Kettering,
Northamptonshire,
January 30.

Abuses of aid by Ethiopia

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative) and others
Sir, The contribution made by governments and voluntary agencies to famine and refugee relief in the Horn of Africa last year has been beyond praise. The immediate crisis may be passing, but the consequences of malnutrition and displacement of peoples will continue for a long time.

Western efforts received excellent co-operation from the Somali authorities despite the illegal occupation of two enclaves by the Ethiopians since 1982 and continuing land and air raids which killed many innocent Somali people. Notwithstanding the change of regime in Khartoum and a civil war in the south of the country, Sudan also did everything possible to expedite assistance to refugees. The worst difficulties were over transport.

Less good will, however, was shown by the Ethiopians. Access to Ethiopian harbours was often delayed to give priority to the import of Soviet arms. Respective of famine, the Mengistu regime pursues its armed intervention in Eritrea (bolstered since December, 1985 by Soviet troops) in Tigray and in the Ogaden so that only a fraction of the transport required has been available to move help given by a sympathetic international community.

Of human rights violations in Ethiopia the most infamous is the resettlement programme whereby Soviet aircraft are forcibly moving thousands of Eritreans and Tigreans to inhospitable regions. When the respected French charity, Médecins sans Frontières, predicted a death-toll of 400,000 as a result, it was summarily expelled.

Before any further pledges of aid are made to Ethiopia, the British Government should make it plain to the regime in Addis Ababa, as has Mr Chester Crocker of the US Administration, that it must improve both its handling of assistance and its record on human rights. It should concentrate its help on Sudan and Somalia, both of which are countries with which we have historical links and whose economic plight is just as severe as that of Ethiopia.

It is a basic human duty to feed starving people, but donors have a right to know that their generosity is not abused. Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY (President,
Horn of Africa Council),
JOHN WILKINSON (Chairman),
JAMES JOHNSON (Vice-Chairman),
JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON,
ANDREW BOWDEN,
JOHN CORRIE,
CRANBORNE,
DOUGLAS DODDS-PARKER,
ANDREW FAULDS,
LOUIS FITZGIBBON,
ANTHONY KERSHAW,
NEIL McLEAN,
JOHN PAGE,
MICHAEL PURCELL,
STEFAN TERLEZKI,
DAVID YOUNG,
112 Eaton Square, SW1.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 11 1899
The Philippines were colonized by Spain in the 16th century. In the late 19th century nationalist aspirations among the Filipinos led to an insurrection and in June 1898 a republic was proclaimed with Emilio Aguinaldo as its president. When the Spanish-American war ended in December 1898 the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam were ceded to the United States. From the beginning the relations between the two countries were antagonistic and in February 1902 a rebellion broke out. The final surrender by the Filipinos was in April 1902. On July 4 1946 the Philippine Republic came into being.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES

CAPTURE OF CALOOCAN (Through Reuters agency) (Through MANILA, FEB.10)
The Filipinos have apparently selected Malabon as their base of operations in their next encounter with the Americans, as they are concentrating there in considerable force. At Caloocan many small bodies of scattered troops are straggling in from the north, and others are undoubtedly arriving from the northern interior provinces. Aguinaldo is reported to have established his headquarters at Malabon for the purpose of rallying his forces and attempting a decisive coup.

In order to cover their movements the Filipinos again opened fire on the Kansas outposts last night from the jungle. Firing was continued for 20 minutes, but without effect. The Americans reserved their fire until a detachment of the enemy emerged from the bamboo jungle, when a well-directed volley sent the Filipinos scurrying back under cover. Apart from this, there was quiet along the entire line.

The 14th Infantry unearthed several tons of Spanish shells which had been stashed away from the Cavite arsenal and concealed by the insurgents in the vicinity of Paranaque. Fifteen cartloads of these munitions have already been brought in; also a modern naval gun, which is believed to have been taken from one of the sunken Spanish warships.

LATER

At 5 minutes past 3 this afternoon the Americans made a combined attack upon Caloocan, and carried the town after a short but brilliant engagement.

At a signal from the tower of the Church of de la Loma, the warship Monadnock, with great effect, opened fire on the earthworks from the bay with the big guns of her forward turret, and soon afterwards the Utah battery began to bombard the position from the land side.

The enemy reserved their fire until the bombardment ceased. They then replied with volleys of musketry fire.

A little later, as the Montana Volunteers advanced towards the jungle, the Kansas Regiment, who were on the extreme left, the 3rd Artillery meanwhile deploying to the right, charged across the open and carried the earthworks under a heavy fire. The troops engaged cheered enthusiastically as the enemy fell back. During the fight they were supported by the artillery posted at the church.

The Filipinos fought desperately, contesting every inch of the ground, but they were steadily driven back right into the town. The line penetrated to the Presidential and hauled down the Filipino flag.

At 5.30 the enemy's sharpshooters in the jungle on the right fired on the Pennsylvanians at long range, but they were soon silenced by a few rounds of shrapnel. The Pennsylvanians remained in their trenches.

The Filipinos sustained heavy loss, being mowed down like grass. The Americans as they advanced burned the native huts. The loss on the American side was slight.

WASHINGTON, FEB.10

President McKinley this afternoon signed the Treaty of Peace with Spain. Mr Hay, Secretary of State, signed the treaty at the same time.

The President has sent to Congress a Message in which he says: "As a consequence of the ratification of the Treaty of Peace with Spain the United States will come into possession of the Philippines. The necessity of speedy communication via Hawaii and Guam is imperative. Such communications should be established in such a way as to be wholly under the control of the United States whether in time of peace or war."

After mentioning the fact that at present the only cable communication with Manila is through foreign countries, and that there exists no means of communicating with Hawaii and Guam except steamer, the Message continues: "The present conditions should not be allowed to continue a moment longer than is absolutely necessary."

Drug addiction

From Mrs M. Neville-Rolfe
Sir, I have been reflecting on the sentences passed on Mr and Mrs Russell after the tragic death of their baby through culpable access to Methadone (report, February 1). The judge pronounced sentences of 10 years and seven years - as a deterrent to drug abusers.

Surely the judge has failed to understand the effect of mind-altering drugs on addicts? To think that long sentences will deter other such people is to fail to understand the mental illness that addicts are suffering from. Their perceptions are so distorted that they will not be able to draw the conclusion the judge wishes to present and the prison service will be put to vast and pointless expense.

The judge could have given

help and hope to many thousands of young abusers if he had imposed a short or suspended sentence, with an obligation to attend a clinic.

The other missed opportunity was not to warn social workers of the dangers in cases where parents are drug addicts. People suffering from addiction deceive themselves and can easily deceive others. Extra vigilance from all involved in child care is urgently required in such cases if other tragedies are to be avoided. Yours faithfully,
MARGARET NEVILLE-ROLFE (Vice-Chairman, Wiltshire branch, Mental Health Foundation),
Ask Farm,
Tisbury,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire,
February 6.

Voluntary services

From Mr Graham Mather
Sir, Peter Jay's letter (February 6) on the future of voluntary organisations after GLC abolition is totally undermined by the misleading evidence he cites concerning the decisions of Westminster City Council.

The truth is that we have offered whole or part funding to all ex GLC-funded bodies that have applied. Our grants budget this year has been increased by a massive 62 per cent to £4.4 million. And those groups who did not receive a grant from this amount can still apply under a

new scheme whereby we will match "pound for pound" any money they can raise from private sources.

This year's grants policy has resulted in significant growth for needy groups in Westminster like the single homeless. I am sure Mr Jay would want other London boroughs to follow this precedent.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM MATHER, Chairman,
Grants Sub-committee,
Westminster City Council,
Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1,
February 6.

Saintly relics

From the Reverend Brian Taylor
Sir, There is more and stronger evidence for the mission of the Apostle Thomas in India than Michael Hamlyn suggests (February 6). However, if, when the crowds have dispersed, he goes to St Thomas's Cathedral, Mylapore, Madras, he will be shown the saint's grave - open and empty.

The tradition is that the bones were taken to Edessa in the third or fourth century. Before Edessa was stormed by the Turks in 1144 they were taken to Chios in the Aegean. In 1258 they were carried to Ortona on the east coast of Italy, where they still are, in a sarcophagus in the crypt beneath the high altar.

The skull is kept separately in a reliquary, and carried in procession through the streets on the first Sunday in May.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN TAYLOR,
The Rectory,
The Flower Walk,
Guildford, Surrey.

Aerial lessons

From Mr James Pilditch
Sir, The Government, we hear (report, February 7), is to spend £3 million on the feasibility study of an aircraft that will whisk us to Sydney in an hour. If this is to see whether there is a market it may be good. If the study is to assess our technical competence to create such a plane it becomes questionable.

Such a study will show, presumably, either that we cannot do it, or that we can do it at a cost we should not afford, or that we could do it with others. Logic suggests the only practical route is the last one.

If that is so, may we hope a partner will be brought in right from the start? That, by the way, would address the market question as well as the cost.

The first thing to do after Concorde, dare one suggest, is to learn the lessons of Concorde.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES PILDITCH,
62 Cadogan Square, SW1,
February 8.

From a great height

From the Countess of Munster
Sir, Apropos of Mr Wait's letter (February 4), perhaps I may quote from the *Herschel Chronicle*, written by my grandmother, Countess Lubbock, who was a granddaughter of William Herschel.

He (William Herschel) wrote a letter to Sir Joseph Banks, as President of the Royal Society, recommending the name "Georgium Sidus" for the new planet... (p.122).

The name which Herschel proposed for the new planet was for a short time used in England, but, on the continent that suggested by the Prussian astronomer, Bode, was considered more appropriate and was soon universally adopted (p.123).

Presumably Bode would have

pronounced Uranus in the German manner. I never heard it pronounced "Uranus" until fairly recently and not by any of my family or people I have met who have made a study of Herschel's life and work.

To tell you the truth I thought it was someone's idea of a schoolboy joke and, if it amuses Mr Wait to pronounce it that way, he may, of course, continue to do so but I should like to know what evidence he can produce to show that such pronunciation was ever used by Herschel.

Yours faithfully,
ALEXA MUNSTER,
78 Bushey Hall Road,
Bushey,
Hertfordshire,
February 5.

Recovered sounds

From Mr Arnold Kentridge
Sir, Mr Steve Race described (January 31) the thrill of hearing a fanfare played on the "long-silent" trumpet that had been found in the tomb of Tutankhamun. This was broadcast by the BBC in July, 1938.

The Tutankhamun trumpets had, in fact, been examined by Professor Percival Kirby when he visited the Royal Egyptian Museum in 1935. With the assistance of Dr Engelbach, the Keeper of the Museum, he removed the wooden cores de-

signed to avoid accidental dents when the trumpets were not in use, and then blew the first sounds from the long-silent trumpets.

There was no mouthpiece of the kind now used on brass instruments, but the mouth ends were turned over a ring of wire. With this embouchure it was easy to produce a fine sound, but only one effective note could be produced apart from a weak lower note.

When the BBC first broadcast the fanfares to which Mr Race refers, they made no mention of the fact that a modern mouth-

Shackle in Nepal

From Lord Camoys
Sir, Mr David Alton is bold indeed to write such a categorical and assertive article, "Speak up for these Christians" (February 1). His recent visit to Nepal lasted less than one week so perhaps we should not be surprised by simple inaccuracies. For example, it was the King, at the time of his coronation, who announced the Zone of Peace concept, not the current Foreign Minister.

Mrs Merz, in her letter (February 7), makes the vital point that Hinduism is an important part of Nepalese culture. Indeed it is, for it permeates the entire social structure and behaviour pattern. That is one of the reasons why evangelisation by any religion or sect is prohibited.

Further, the Nepalese Government is surely as aware as any that the very process of evangelisation in a country which is already deeply imbued with the traditions and behaviour of another can cause social and civil strife. The history of the subcontinent is witness to that.

One of the tragic results of the behaviour of some of the Christian Evangelists is that the work of those other Christians who have been happily helping the Nepalese with health care, education, agriculture etc for over 30 years, without trying to influence the Nepalese away from their traditional beliefs, may now be damaged.

Yours faithfully,
CAMOYS,
Stonor Park,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Meaningful terms

From Mr Jim Simmonds
Sir, The one I rather care for concerns the American hostess who enquired of her guest, having just sat down to dinner, "Are you into condimentation?" Yours,
JIM SIMMONDS,
Byways,
Bovey Tracey,
Devon.

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Miles King
in exot
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THE ARTS

Television Official neglect

Last September's earthquake in Mexico devastated a country struggling to pay the interest on its awesome national debt. International reaction was coloured by the feeling that nature had kicked the people when they were down. But, as last night's excellent World in Action (Granada) revealed, the steel teacups had already been provided by the speculators, contractors and government officials who allowed the property boom of the 1970s to mushroom with no thought to the citizens' safety in a known earthquake zone.

With oriental disposition, a civil engineer who lost four of his family in the disaster-likened building on the dried lake-bed of Mexico City to parking a car on a plate of porridge. High-rise blocks are stabilized by foundation rafts requiring monthly maintenance - that maintenance was skimped. Infinitely more chill-making: it was primarily the public buildings that collapsed. The heaviest loss of life occurred in the central hospital which now lies in a graveyard of wrong concrete beside a 300-year-old church that survived undamaged. Much damning evidence of criminal neglect is available from footage of the rescue operation, when giant concrete beams entirely innocent of reinforcing rods were sheared through by the simplest cutting machinery.

One was left wondering what left-handed dodge the commission of inquiry will resort to for the purpose of saving face. Meanwhile, the government's main priority, with 30,000 dead and 15,000 still homeless, is to clean up the capital's streets in time for the World Cup finals in June.

It was reconstruction that exercised our own Government to the mid-1940s, when the drive to replace the population lost in the war gave rise to the Beveridge Plan, the establishment's way of apologizing to the working class. Mothers Don't Forget (Channel 4), the second in a series of three, intercut cosy monologues from modern mums describing their experience of the State benefit system with wartime propaganda films hailing the coming dawn. Additional inserts (without comment) of 1980s newspaper headlines bawling about "the cuts" prompted a question which has been asked before and which must be asked again: what could Goebbels not have achieved with television at his disposal?

Martin Cropper

Wells their future would be in jeopardy. But this being a theatrical occasion (special credit to the Royal Ballet dancers Mark Freeman and David Drew respectively for suggesting it and organizing it) there was lots of fun too, with dancers even busking for the Wells in the interval. There was singing as well as dancing. The quartet "What's the Use?" from Bernstein's *Candide* and that famous little list from *The Mikado* (evidently itemized by Nicholas Grace) inevitably acquired some new words to

routine, it must be said, resembled a rather disorganised highland fling. In between, were short performances by the soulful Working Week and the screeching Jimmy Somerville's Communists, a song from Jaki Graham and a surprise appearance by Mike Oldfield who, accompanied by Maggie Reilly, played "Moon Shadow". Despite inappropriate references to Woodstock, Steve Blackwell compered with some charm, and picked up the baton with good grace the when a so-called comedian, Harry Enfield, was rightly chivvied back to the dressing-room by an audience grown impatient with his rebarbative "humour".

Galleries Man who changed the face of stone

Image of Man Barbican Concourse

The Human Touch: Sculpture of the Human Figure British Museum

Mapping the Body London Ecology Centre

Earlier generations would have found it difficult to imagine that a show such as Image of Man, in the Barbican Concourse gallery until March 9, could come to us with something like a shock of novelty. They might understand our surprise with reference to specific sculptures; for how, they might ask, could we recognize Barbara Hepworth's *Head (Ra)* of 1972 as an "image of man" at all? But in general what could be more natural and expected, since the human face, the human head and the human body were so evidently the staple subject of art?

That *Image of Man* is an unusual exhibition simply indicates the distance that even the most conservative of us have travelled from traditional expectations of western art during this century. We certainly do not take it for granted any more that all sculptures will be primarily interested in somehow rendering the living body, most commonly of humans, but if not at least of the higher animals.

Yet here we have an anthology of sculpted human heads, sometimes with a bust attached but more frequently not, and virtually all of them from the last 100 years: only three of the 58, Daumier's lively, caricatural *The Man with the Large Wig* (Louis XIV), Vincenzo Gemito's hero-worshipping *Giuseppe Verdi* and the earliest of the five Rodins, are earlier than 1836. The Daumier and the Gemito each make a specific point in relation to what comes after; by reminding us of a coherent tradition in which caricature made a special sort of sense and portraiture was expected to be elevated to an heroic plane.

Rodin more than anyone else put an end to all that. His Balzac monument of 1898, for which there is a *Large Head* study here, dared to be at once heroic and caricatural, boldly naturalistic and highly stylized, elegant and ungainly. It held within itself almost all the possibilities of twentieth-century sculpture and its approaches to the subject-matter of the human body, even, in its final almost completely enveloped form, that of abstraction to the point of unrecognizability.

The rest of the show indicates how later sculptors selected among the manifold possibilities offered by Rodin. Shaw pointed out that Ibsen represented a watershed in drama: "A modern manager need not produce

The Wild Duck, but he must be very careful not to produce a play which will seem insipid and old-fashioned to players who have seen *The Wild Duck*, even though they may have missed it." The same observation applies exactly to Rodin: even for sculptors who vociferously disapproved of what he was doing, sculpture could never be the same again.

Most of the sculptures in the show demonstrate, through variations on the theme of the human head, in how many and various ways the challenge of Rodin has been met. The works are almost all in bronze (though they include one rare wax original by the "impressionist" sculptor Medardo Rosso, one wood-carving and one large ceramic), which gives to the collection a consistency transcending the diversity.

And the extraordinary array of works by major figures from Bourdelle to Brancusi, Maillol to Modigliani, Ernst to Kollwitz, Lehmbruck to Wotruba, provides us with so much food for thought one can only regret that Peter Zuyvesant did not extend their sponsorship to providing the authoritative catalogue so imperatively called for as well as assembling the works themselves.

Not, let me hasten to add, that *The Image of Man* is not perfectly capable of speaking for itself to the eye and sometimes to the heart. By the convention of the moment there is another sense that it is prohibited from addressing, and a peculiarly sculptural one at that: the sense of touch. With the heavy emphasis we place today on conservation, handling sculpture is, in general, not approved of and no doubt rightly so if we remember St Peter's toe, not to mention the less evident hazards of chemical reaction.

All the same, the show of sculpture at the Tate Gallery a few years ago which was specifically for blind people was a revelation to those few sighted people (mostly critics) privileged to be let loose among the tactile wonders. Now the British Museum has a show, *The Human Touch: Sculpture of the Human Figure* (until March 16), which is meant to be explored with the fingers, and is open to everybody. Through being, for once, able to touch, one does find out new things about old and possibly rather hackneyed works of art (hackneyed, generally that is, since naturally we are being invited to touch works from the museum's reserves rather than major masterpieces). We realize, for instance, that there is not much to be gained artistically from touching the fifth-century Byzantine marble figure of *The Good Shepherd*, as the material is too pitted and abraded for us to make closer contact with the sculptor and his intentions. On the other hand, it is wonderful to be able to let one's fingers play over the intricate pleats of the garment on the *Pharaoh*



Meeting the challenge of Rodin: *Ranieri*, a bronze by Corrado Cagli (b.1910) from *Image of Man*

Nectanebo I, as the black granite is as crisp (and elsewhere as smooth) as the day it was carved in the fourth century BC.

We also probably find ourselves observing, perhaps with slight embarrassment, the different implications of touching from those of merely looking. It would be interesting to have hidden cameras trained on at least two of the figures, a tiny, sensuously female marble figure from third-century BC Syria or Mesopotamia and a larger, obtrusively male wooden figure from Nigeria from early in our own century.

Surely the patterns of response and withdrawal, what is fondled, what is touched, what is touched unselfconsciously and what is meticulously avoided, would tell us a lot about our own attitudes to sexuality as well as the advantages and pitfalls of the sculptor's art. For where, amid the mixed emotions with which we handle evidently sexual artefacts, does the purely (or not so purely) sensual shade off into the

strictly aesthetic? Is it possible to draw the line? Is there any point in our even trying?

For anyone interested in carrying the study of the human body and the relations of its understanding to art, there is a marginal but intriguing show called *Mapping the Body* at the London Ecology Centre, 45 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, until the end of the month. This proves to be a didactic exhibition, related to a series of Tuesday-night seminars at the ICA, about the differing ideas of the human body, its physical and spiritual structure, which have obtained in various cultures, oriental and occidental, ancient and modern.

The subject is fascinating and full of implications for the arts in general; moreover, the maps of the body actually produced, even with purely scientific intent, are often rather beautiful. More originals would be desirable, not to mention a proper explanatory catalogue. But it is still well worth a short visit.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts Satirical delights

LSO/Rozhdestvensky Barbican

Gennadi Rozhdestvensky is back with the London Symphony Orchestra for a series of four Barbican concerts and, if Sunday night's first is anything to go by, they will certainly strengthen the long-term bond between them.

Rozhdestvensky's Stravinsky is a force to be reckoned with and, after his *Firebird* on Sunday, one can only wait impatiently for *The Rite of Spring* which ends the series on February 20. But we are being treated to his Prokofiev as well: *Alexander Nevsky* next Sunday and, for the time being, the suite from *Lieutenant Kije* and excerpts from *Romeo and Juliet*.

Rozhdestvensky understands nicely the coexistence in Prokofiev's music of the satiric observation of the adult and the delighted eye of the child, and he balances them on the very edge of his long, daring baton to irresistible effect. *Lieutenant Kije* was born with a flick of the wrist, the arching of an eyebrow, and a minutely calculated balance between offstage cornet and muted orchestra. That finesse of judgement epitomized the

entire clean, silver-tipped reading with its miraculously urbane trumpet and horn solos and its most delicate shadings of time and distance.

Romeo and Juliet, too, showed Rozhdestvensky's cunning in playing off the acoustic, his players' temperaments and the orchestration one against the other. He created an extraordinary echo-chamber effect with sudden, hushed violins cringing under an unusually compressed opening tutti crescendo; and, at the Death of Tybalt, he incited each string instrument to frenetic individual activity within the music's massive weight. Best of all, Rozhdestvensky would never allow his players to go too far at the top of a phrase. The drama was fierce but contained: no facile staccato for the young Juliet, no screeching violins for the Minuet.

The low point of the evening was Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto. Kazuue Shimizu delivered his solo part with a cool, hard exactitude, a disturbingly voiceless and far all its technical virtuosity, played alongside rather than with the orchestra in a chill and curiously relentless isolation.

Hilary Finch

Unforced weight

RPO/Temirkanov Festival Hall

The sheer inspiration of Brahms's Violin Concerto always seems to take charge of every performance it receives, but even so Miriam Fried's deeply committed account of the solo part made for a memorable listening experience. Her remarkable 'unforced weight of tone

almost as vigorously as Temirkanov himself.

Temirkanov's batonless style is nothing if not expansive - sometimes he looks as if he is sweeping snow off a car windscreen with both forearms. But the orchestral results have energy and precision. Borodin's *Prince Igor* overture featuring some crisp interplay from the brass section, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* was less successful, flawed by the all-too-familiar over-obviousness. This score can shimmer with a marvelous fairy-tail magic, but it needs a much defter touch than it got here.

During the first movement she seemed concerned that her violin was slipping out of tune, but either this was less of a problem than she feared or she was concentrating very expertly.

The music's paragraphs were unfolded in long spans, articulated by an obviously formidable technical mastery, and, if some more gently floated tones in the Adagio would have been nice, the finale was swept along on a cascade of exhilarating dance-rhythms which had an enthusiastic gentleman sitting just in front of me conducting

The *Festival of Baghdad* for instance was consistently driven too hard for the brilliant orchestration to speak as vividly as it should. Still, this performance had its moments; *The Tales of the Kalendar Prince* was excitingly played, Temirkanov paying close and effective attention to details of phrasing. Sympathy is offered to Barry Griffiths, whose lovely concluding violin solo was ruined by some of the most disgustingly insensitive audience coughing I have ever heard.

Malcolm Hayes

Fund-raising galas Save the Wells Covent Garden

"Oh God, the muddled thinking the world can get to with the best intentions!" The expositional was wrong from Ninette de Valois on stage at Covent Garden on Sunday night as, flanked by Alicia Markova and Frederick Ashton (three architects of British ballet, living national treasures all of them), she contemplated the possible effect of the Arts Council's well-intentioned muddled thinking on the future of Sadler's Wells.

We were there, the performers on stage, others in the pit and behind the scenes, and a house packed to the rafters, to try to convince Sir William and his Merry Men of their mistake and, from Ian McKellen's introduction to Peggy Ashcroft's final impersonation of the late Lilian Baylis begging and bullying for her beloved theatre, there was no mistaking the mood. Dame Ninette got it right again with her remark that bricks and mortar are "a subject I'm worried, excited and determined about". McKellen's voice rightly tolled like a knell through the show as, introducing one company after another, he pointed out that without the



Nicholas Grace with his ebullient little list from *Mikado*

Wells their future would be in jeopardy. But this being a theatrical occasion (special credit to the Royal Ballet dancers Mark Freeman and David Drew respectively for suggesting it and organizing it) there was lots of fun too, with dancers even busking for the Wells in the interval. There was singing as well as dancing. The quartet "What's the Use?" from Bernstein's *Candide* and that famous little list from *The Mikado* (evidently itemized by Nicholas Grace) inevitably acquired some new words to

survival is as a dance house: the theatre that, in my lifetime, has done more for dance in Britain and British dance than any other. Its resident Royal Ballet company, dancing in New York, was represented by two former members, Doreen Wells and Stephen Jefferies, in the final duet from *The Two Yeoman*, how ravishing to see her again after too long an absence, and Jefferies partnering her as if his heart would break with love and pride.

Covent Garden's branch of the Royal Ballet let their hair down with Michael Corder's spoof *Flora's Demise*, starring Michael Coleman as a glum Prince Charming on crutches, and provided partners for Yoko Shimizu (who has just unfurling lost her own battle with British red tape) in the Rose Adagio from *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Mentioning all who took part would more than exhaust my space, but the enthusiasm aroused by Festival Ballet's Jeanette Mulligan and Alexander Sombart in *Three Preludes* must not go unremarked, nor the touching promise of the National Youth Dance Company's Dwight Powell in his own solo *Freedom* and a squad from the Royal Ballet School in their famous hornpipe. To put on a show of this sort in one week is amazing. If the Arts Council does not hear the clear message it will never be forgiven.

John Percival

A rumped Pete Townsend, accompanied by his daughter Emma on keyboards, Peter Hope-Evans on harmonica and a Mickey Mouse drum-machine, played a reflective selection including "Eyesight for the Blind" and "I'm One" from *Quadrophenia* while the much-anticipated Annie Lennox accompanied by Pat Seymour on piano sang only Sievie Wonder's "Blame it on the Sun" and promptly retired.

Thus the musical accolades were shared decisively by David Gilmour and Chrissie Hynde, both of whom used the power-house Merchant/Simon Phillips (drums) rhythm section. The unfappable Gilmour hit a splendid measured stride with "You

Know I'm Right" and "Run Like Hell" before sitting at the piano to play "Out of the Blue", perhaps the most apposite song of the evening. In fine voice, Chrissie Hynde, with the Pretenders guitarist Robby McIntosh, took command of the finale with songs including "Time the Avenger", Dylan's "Property of Jesus", and "Back on the Chain Gang", and with Annie Lennox sang last rousing duet of "Give It Up". Buckets were rattled, and spare change was collected. More please.

David Sinclair

Donations may be sent to Colombian Volcano Appeal, 171 Tottenham Court Road, London W1.

Theatre Essential Euripides for the Eighties

Medea Theatr Clywd

It is one sign of Toby Robertson's self-confidence as Theatr Clywd's incoming artistic director that, having lured a Medea with the drawing power of Eileen Atkins in his remote North Wales arts centre, he should then leave its main house dark and consign the production to one of its studios.

He has good reason for this, as appears partly from Simon Hipier's transformation of the space into a miniature amphitheatre: an all-white wrap-round of cotton draperies, skulls and shattered sculpture at once establishing the sense of Hellenic sunlight and a climate of desolation.

Medea has lately been emerging as the key Euripides text for the Eighties, as *The*

Bacchae was 20 years ago: this production follows Nancy Meckler's powerfully feminist version and Tony Harrison's *Medea: a Sex-war Opera* as the latest attempt to put the myth under a microscope and extract more from it than the story of a sexual betrayal repaid with an atrocious revenge. Hence another reason for examining the play in conditions that promote emotional precision rather than grand gestures.

Medea is a wronged wife. She is also an alien, a factor Mr Robertson starkly underlines by presenting the Greeks as blacks. Clifton Jones's panicky Creon, a tin-pot tyrant in a wheelchair, and Leon Herbert's smugly dominant Jason stand for the civilized values; while the barbarian murderer who is shortly to kill her own children appears in the person of a wretched white woman whom we first see stifling her anguish to address

the women of Corinth with the utmost courtesy.

It seems that we are being invited to view the events through Medea's eyes; and from the moment of her opening offstage cries, Miss Atkins's performance sets out to capture unqualified sympathy. She starts in total despair without a plan in her head. It is easy to identify with that; then with her first steps towards recovery, as she plausibly talks Creon round to giving her a day of grace and confronts Jason, choking back her anger to attack him rationally.

Sometimes playing the silly submissive woman or the harmless victim, sometimes telegraphing her true feelings with twisting fingers and flashes of huge horror-struck eyes, she reveals enormous variety in the part and carries you with her up to the moment when - on hearing that her deadly gifts have been kindly received by Jason's bride - she utters a

cry as if awakening from a nightmare.

It is at this point that the spectators realize they have walked into the nightmare with her; and when she goes on to the final killings she is on her own. She is now hectoring the audience, and the more defiantly she gives her reasons for killing the children the clearer it is that they are bad reasons. This is a staggering transition; but its effect is not so much to show her transformation into a monster as to turn a mirror on a house full of potential Medeas.

Taking full account of the feminist position, this is not a feminist production. Its aim is not to justify the character but to show character engulfed by non-rational forces. In the words of Jeremy Brooks's translation: "Rage masters all as conscience never can".

Irving Wardle

CHRISTIE'S WEEK IN VIEW

A selection from our 21 sales in London this week.

Modern Sporting Guns and Vintage Firearms: Wednesday 12 February at 11 a.m., King Street: An extraordinary suite of six guns by Holland and Holland - three 20-bore and three 12-bore - will be the centre of attention. Virtually as new, they should fetch £30,000 to £40,000 a set. For sportsmen with less princely pockets there is the usual wide range of useful and interesting guns at more everyday prices.

Claret and White Bordeaux: Thursday 13 February at 11 a.m., King Street: A choice of over 500 lots offer substantial quantities of investment vintages - particularly 1978 and 1982. Current stability in prices present excellent opportunities for wines to lay down. There are also many choices ready to drink, from the first years of the 1960s to the lighter wines of 1972 and 1973.

Fine Victorian Pictures: Friday 14 February at 11 a.m., King Street: Admirers of Adkinson Grimshaw's characteristic night-scenes will find five lots to choose from in this wide-ranging sale. There is a fine romantic view of the Palace of Westminster in 1877 by Claude Moore, a wonderfully sentimental view of the 1890s by Jessica Haylar entitled *Fresh from the Altar* and a charming group of country

children playing rather informal cricket. Much else besides of course, with good examples by B. W. Leader, J. C. Hook, Sir E. J. Poynter and James Webb.

Ancient, Foreign and English Coins and Medallions: Tuesday 18 February at 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m., King Street: Much interest has been shown in the extensive collection of Norfolk Trade Tokens formed by Mr. D. L. Cornell. Used as a means of exchange when there was a shortage of copper coinage, they were issued in many towns and villages. The sale is also a tempting opportunity for collectors in all numismatic fields, at prices from around £50 up to £2,000.

Viewing: King Street: Weekdays 9 a.m.-4.45 p.m. Enquiries: (01) 839 9060. South Kensington: Mondays 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m.-4.45 p.m. Enquiries: (01) 581 7611.

Christie's have 22 local offices in the U.K. If you would like to know the name of your nearest representative, please telephone Caroline Treffgarne on (01) 588 4424.



BEFORE YOU CONSIDER ARGYLL AND DISTILLERS, TAKE A LOOK AT ARGYLL AND DISTILLERIES.



LOCH LOMOND, SPRING 1985.



GLEN SCOTIA, SUMMER 1983.



LITTLEMILL, SPRING 1985.

Compare the words of the Argyll Group of Companies with those of Guinness PLC on their respective commitment to Scotch whisky.

Argyll: "In March 1985 the Loch Lomond Distillery, together with certain Scotch whisky stocks, were sold to Inver House Distillers Ltd for a total consideration of £6.9 million. The sale reflected a policy decision to reduce investment in Scotch whisky production." (Source: Argyll Annual Report, August 1985.)

Ernest Saunders, Chief Executive of Guinness: "Scotland is the home of whisky and we must do everything in our power to ensure that the life blood of this vital export industry is not damaged." (Source: Guinness Press Release, February 4th 1986.)

GUINNESS PLC

Guinness and Distillers. A stroke of genius.

COMMODITIES



IF YOU WANT TO GET AHEAD, GET THE TIMES

La Crème de la Crème

A wide range of Secretarial and P.A. Appointments Plus General Secretarial Appointments.

WEDNESDAY MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR COPY OF THE TIMES

EVERY WEDNESDAY

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table with columns for Market rates, Bid rates, and Ask rates. Includes Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, and Other Sterling Rates.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table showing Money Rates (Bankers 12%, Discount Market Loans), Treasury Bills (Discount %), Prime Bank Bills (Discount %), and Local Authority Deposits.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London Financial Futures including Three Month Sterling, Three Month Eurodollar, US Treasury Bond, and Short Gilts.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table of Other Sterling Rates for various currencies including Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, and others.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of Dollar Spot Rates for various countries including Ireland, Singapore, Malaysia, and others.

COMMODITIES

Table of Commodity prices including Rubber, Coffee, Soyabean, and various metals.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of Investment Trusts listing various funds and their performance metrics.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of Financial Trusts listing various funds and their performance metrics.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table of Unit Trusts listing various funds, their managers, and performance data across multiple columns.

THE QUOTATIONS ON THIS PAGE RELATE TO FRIDAY'S TRADING

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

TEMPUS

MEPC-Trafalgar link increasingly likely

Rumblings have been about for some time that MEPC, Britain's second largest property company, representing 2 per cent of the sector, is concerned about its image.

Speculation that Trafalgar House is on the verge of making an agreed £1 billion offer for it has merely reinforced the view that changes are in the offing.

MEPC denies that talks are under way with Trafalgar, but that is not to say that they have not taken place. And leads to the press are useful ways of testing the institutional water.

Most of the institutions have some holding in MEPC, a core sector stock, but the feeling is that the company would fit well into Trafalgar House if it in turn wishes to come back into property development.

Trafalgar has been busy divesting itself of property investments, but development is another story altogether.

Heavy property assets acquired through MEPC capitalized at around £715 million, would give Trafalgar a useful base from which to raise money by taking equity. Pundits are looking to Trafalgar to make a large and successful acquisition.

MEPC in turn could be in for a change in management as its managing director, Mr Christopher Beesley, spends more of his time running the London Docklands Development Corporation - a role he took over from Sir Nigel Brookes, the chairman of Trafalgar House.

Weir/Yarrow

Weir is putting out a circular today which it hopes will win over Yarrow's shareholders. They have until Friday, or if Weir chooses to extend the offer for 24 hours, Saturday, to decide whether to accept.

At first sight the issue seems simple. Yarrow's share price stands well above the offer, although the premium is not as high as it was at the end of last week when Yarrow said the bid valued each share at 488p. Yesterday the offer was worth 302p against a market

price of 543p. As Weir has said that its offer is final, this suggests that small shareholders should sell in the market.

Lord Weir counters strongly, arguing that the premium over the bid represents investors' hopes that they will receive additional compensation. Theoretically these hopes should transfer to Weir's paper. But shareholders might be tempted to realize cash rather than put their faith in market theory.

The Weir camp claims that large shareholders are not free to sell in quantity in the market. Yarrow has fewer than 400 shareholders, so the market in its shares is somewhat restricted. Large shareholders therefore have to decide whether Yarrow's shares would slip if the bid failed.

Yarrow says companies comparable with its trading subsidiaries, the consultancy YARD and Control Systems, trade on a multiple of 18 times earnings on average. It says the Weir values the trading businesses at only 8 times earnings.

The problem for Yarrow is that its trading record reflects its efforts to rebuild the company after nationalization of the ship-building assets rather than the growth achieved by companies in similar businesses.

The prospect of faster growth is alluring and the bid with 28 per cent of the shares from which or another company could launch another bid in the future are reasonable grounds for staying with Yarrow, but shareholders must be uneasy about the decision to pay out cash. Is Yarrow benefit of ideas for investing its own money?

Midland Bank's announcement last week that it was divesting itself of the disastrous Crocker National investment was greeted with understandable euphoria by the stock market. It is clear, however, that Midland is far from being out of the wood - its exposure to Latin America has shot up because of inherited Crocker loans,

Midland Bank

for example - while the outlook for the rest of the bank sector could well turn rather sour in the next 12 months.

The instant 65p increase in Midland shares after the Crocker news still leaves the yield well above those of its competitors' shares on current 1985 dividend expectations. With projected dividends of around 25.5p Midland's shares are yielding 7.5 compared with prospective yields of 6.5 for Lloyds, 6 for National Westminster and 5.9 for Barclays.

COMPANY NEWS

HUNTERPRINT GROUP: The board reports that the current year to the end of next September has started encouragingly with turnover and profits ahead of the comparable period last year.

PLAXTONS (GB): The annual meeting was told that the depression in the coach industry, partly caused by uncertainties in respect of depreciation and the privatisation of the national bus company, is continuing in the present year.

NICHOLAS (VIMTO): The company is to buy Cabana, a manufacturer of soft drinks, in the year to Jan 31, 1985. Cabana reported profits before tax of £24.27 million and net assets at that date of £81.97 million.

OCEAN TRANSPORT AND TRADING: The company is to acquire the coal merchant business of Mr A C P Butt of Bristol for a total consideration of 100,000 ordinary stock units and a cash sum of £54,000 and an amount equal to the valuation of stocks of coal acquired. The valuation of the coal stocks is not expected to exceed £80,000.

ARMSTRONG EQUIPMENT: Eastern Engineering, the automotive coil and taper-leaf spring manufacturing division of Stephenson Blake (Holds) has been taken over. The factory, at Tonypandy, South Wales, has a turnover of £6 million.

WHEWY: Mr Edward Jaynes, the chairman, told the annual meeting that during the past year considerable changes in the group have taken it away from its former reliance on mining and have increased the non-manufacturing and service parts. All activities are now trading profitably.

THORN EMI: Following discussions between the company, the Virgin Group and Yorkshire Television, shareholders in the music channel which operates the Music Box cable television programme channel - Thorn's 50 per cent interest has been acquired by Virgin, which has assumed responsibility for Thorn's share of the losses before the end of last year. This involves the transfer to Virgin of Thorn's shares and loan stock for a nominal cash consideration and the payment to Thorn of about £600,000 cash.

AFRICAN LAKES CORPORATION: A dividend of 1.5p (same) is being paid for 1985. Turnover £17.5 million (£13.74 million). Group profit on ordinary activities before tax £510,000 (£1.25 million). Earnings per share 3.97p (13.03p).

NORDIC INVESTMENT TRUST: Six months to November 30. No interim income - dividend and interest on investments £54,635. Interest on loans per cent deposits £88,010. Profits, less losses on dealings in investments by subsidiaries £124,204.

ISLE OF MAN STEAM PACKET: For 1985, no dividend (nil). Turnover £16.34 million (£12.32 million). Pretax loss £604,424 (£303,772). Extraordinary debit, £2.54 million (£2.5 million). Loss per stock unit before extraordinary item, 17.9p (13.5p) and after, 19.2p (12.45p).

CHARTERHOUSE PETROLEUM: Petrofina now owns or has received acceptances for 127.75 million ordinary shares (94.12 per cent).

FLICKER CHAIR ENGLAND: The company is to sell its interests to BP New Zealand and New Zealand Industrial Gases for £26.5 million.

ACCESS SATELLITE INTERNATIONAL: For the half-year to Oct 31, 1985, an interim dividend of 2p (1p) is being paid. Turnover £5.77 million (£2.64 million). Profit before tax £1.36 million (£1.16 million).

BOWATER INC: The company has appointed Morgan Guaranty and Citicorp Suisse/First Boston as co-dealers to establish a \$100 million Eurocommercial paper facility.

AUTOMAGIC: For the half-year to Oct 28, 1985, an interim dividend of 2p is declared. Turnover £3.43 million (£2.97 million). Pretax profit £153,000 (£125,000). Earnings per share 1.4p (1.2p).

GEORGE DEW: A total dividend of 6p (5.7p) is being paid for 1985. Turnover £29.96 million (£36.27 million). Profit before tax £1.06 million (£1.68 million).

APPOINTMENTS

BP: Mr Peter J. Bryers is to be managing director of BP Far East and BP Japan Trading in the Tokyo office. Clarke Homes (Midlands): Mr John Bernard Cox has been appointed land director.

Davy McKee (London): Mr Robert C. Akroyd is to be managing director. Fliteline: Mr Bruce Henderson has been appointed sales director.

Cabrée Electrical Industries: Mr Gerry Fisk has been named as managing director. The Scottish Provident: Mr Colin W McLean is to be investment manager. He will also be a director of Scottish Provident Managed Pension Funds and Scottish Provident Investment Management.

Thermal Scientific: Sir Christopher Leaver has joined the board. Sals Tilney Technology: Mr Terry Reynolds has been appointed sales director.

British Rail Engineering: Mr Mike Beal is to be head of information technology at the Derby headquarters. Anglo-Icelandic Holdings: Mr James Bird, Mr Sydney Burrell and Mr Terence D Wall (directors of Petbow Holdings) have joined the board. Mr Bird has been elected a deputy chairman.

Mr Brian Wolfson, Mr Douglas Eccleston and Mr Michael Ridout have been appointed directors of Petbow Holdings after the takeover by Anglo Nordic. South Bank Technopark: Mr John McLean Fox, director of PA Management Consultants, has been appointed chairman. Mr Jeffe Jeffers has been named as managing director.

Humphreys & Glasgow: Mr James Law has been made group director, marketing and corporate development. Northern Foods: Mr Tony Hughes is to be managing director of Northern Foods Dairy Group.

Domino Printing: Mr Jerry Leon Smith has been appointed an additional non-executive director. Charles Barker: Sir Richard Baker Williams has become a non-executive director.

Logica: Mr Paul Bassett has been appointed a non-executive director. James Beattie: Mr R.S. Taylor has been named as a director.

W H Smith: Mr E E Elson becomes chairman of W H Smith & Son (USA). Dairy Crest Foods: Mr

David Lewis has become finance director. Interlingua/TTI Group: Mr Mike Eichner has been appointed executive chairman.

Austin Rover: Mr A W Sergeant has been named as director of Austin Rover's car assembly plant at Cowley. Hewlett-Packard Limited: Mr Robert E Ford has become director of finance and administration.

Legal and General International: Mr John Batcher is to become deputy chief executive at Victory, the reinsurance subsidiary, from April 1 and chief executive from July 1. He will succeed Mr Alan Preston, chief executive, who is to retire.

Crown Wallcoverings: Mr Ian Collins has been appointed managing director. Palma Group: Mr Frank A Barrow has been named as a director. He will also join the board of Per Holdings, a wholly-owned subsidiary, as managing director.

Staybright Windows: Mr Jim Hearnshaw has been appointed chairman. Philips Electronics: Mr Kevin Kennedy has become group managing director for telecommunications and data systems.

BES issue seeks £3m for City Shops

By Lawrence Lever

City Shops, a new Business Expansion Scheme company, is seeking £3 million from investors to finance the purchase of retail outlets. To start with it will operate under a franchise arrangement with H.Plan, a manufacturer of high quality, custom-built bedroom furniture, but it intends to expand and diversify through agency and franchise arrangements with successful high street retailers.

The issue is sponsored by the licensed dealer, Baltic Asset Management, which has already raised money under the BES to finance the



David Essex show funded by BES

acquisition of a London restaurant and the production of the musical *Murphy*, featuring David Essex.

The management of City Shops is applying for 125,000 shares on the same terms as are available to outside subscribers. The company itself is projecting (not forecasting) pretax profits of £284,000 in its first year of operations, rising to £408,000 and £540,000 in the following two years.

The issue is due to close at 3pm on March 18, just before the Budget.

Bank shares could even be adversely affected by long-term uncertainty over the oil price. The sector can really regard itself as being in the clear only if oil settles back at around \$25 a barrel - but that does not look a likely level in the present climate of chaos among oil producers.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Shares climb to peak on hopes of tax cuts

By Our City Staff

The stock market raced to new peaks as speculative fever continued. Hopes of big tax cuts in next month's Budget and receding fears of higher interest rates pushed up share prices in stores, foods, buildings and properties.

Stonehill was down 9p at 82p ahead of its interim profits today.

Colorell's exercise of an option to take a further 10 per cent share in its American subsidiary Wallmates, taking its holding to 91 per cent, pushed up its shares to 171p, up 9p.

The stock market continued to advance to new heights with the FT 30 index closing at a record 1193.8, up 6.1, and the FT-SE index closing up 16.4 at 1461.4. The FT 30 reached a record trading high during the day at 1194.3.

can subsidiary Wallmates, taking its holding to 91 per cent, pushed up its shares to 171p, up 9p.

Insurances, both life and composites were strong, with Commercial Union 11p higher at 272p on rumours of stake building by the American arbitrageur Mr Ivan

Boesky. Royal Insurance was up 20p at 826p. Williams Holdings was up 12p at 465p on expansion hopes. It is tipped as a bidder for McKechnie Brothers which is bidding for Newman Tunks.

Wimpey gained 4p to 150p on rumours of the Grove Trust stake sale. Westland eased 1p to 110p on the failure of the tender offer by the European consortium.

Diploma gained 7p to 283p on news of a German acquisition.

Traded options Dealers reported moderate conditions. Calls were produced in Polly Peck, Coats Patons, Comm Bank of Wales, STC, Paviou, Pritchard Services, Amstrad, Aberdeen Steak Houses. Puts were arranged in Amstrad, Polly Peck, Dixons, Reckitt and Colman. Doubles were completed in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Amstrad, Acorn Comp.

Registration of computer-held information under the Data Protection Act has been significantly slower than expected, with only 7,000 companies completing the procedure in the first three months of the registration.

Today marks the half-way stage in the six months during which details of all personal data held on computers must be registered. The Data Protection Registrar, Mr Eric Howe, had expected up to 30,000 applications by now. In total about 300,000 companies are thought to be affected by the Act.

People might think they are exempt when they are not. I am concerned to make sure that people understand the application of the Act," Mr Howe said.

Companies who fail to register by May 11 will be committing a criminal offence which could lead to unlimited fines.

The registrar is likely to take a lenient view if people are genuinely confused, but those who are seen to have flouted the Act will be prosecuted.

The registrar is now conducting a study to discover the level of awareness about the requirements of the Data Protection Act and further advertising may start next month. So far 150,000 forms have been sent out but companies are clearly taking their time about completing them.

The late build-up in registrations will mean an increasingly heavy workload at the registry.

The slow build-up in applications has at least enabled the registry to check submitted forms thoroughly. So far about 8 per cent of forms have been wrongly completed and have been classed as invalid.

Wellcome to hold ballots for new issue

The public share issue by the pharmaceutical group Wellcome was 18 times oversubscribed, the company announced yesterday.

More than 430,000 applications were received for a total of about 3.75 billion shares at 120p a share, with an aggregate value of some £4.5 billion.

Preferential applications, including those from employees and certain former employees, have been allocated in full for a total of approximately 17 million shares.

Because of the oversubscription the company says it has not been practical to allocate shares to all applicants. After rejecting multiple applications and those not completed in accordance with the terms of the offer, shares have been allocated as follows:

applications for between 200 and 300 shares - ballots for 200 shares; 400 shares - ballots for 250; 500 to 1,500 - ballots for 300;

2,000 to 4,000 - ballots for 350; 4,500 and 5,000 - 350; 6,000 and 7,000 - 400; 8,000 shares - 450

For applications for 9,000 shares and above, the allocation will be approximately 5.5 per cent of the number of shares applied for, subject to a maximum allocation of 560,000.

The ballots are being carried out on a weighted basis after giving significant preference to smaller applications, and will be approximately: 200 shares - 1 to 4 basis 300 to 500 - 1 in 10 1,000 - 1 in 5 1,500 and 2,000 - 1 in 3 2,500 - 2 in 5 3,000 - 1 in 2 3,500 - 2 in 3 4,000 - 3 to 4

Firms drag feet on data law

By Teresa Poole

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Reason enough to consider a flexible business loan.

Base Rates are a bit like the weather, ie notoriously difficult to predict.

Indeed in the last 10 years they have fluctuated over 70 times at the last count.

So if you're taking out a long term business loan, you don't always want to be locked into a fixed rate of interest.

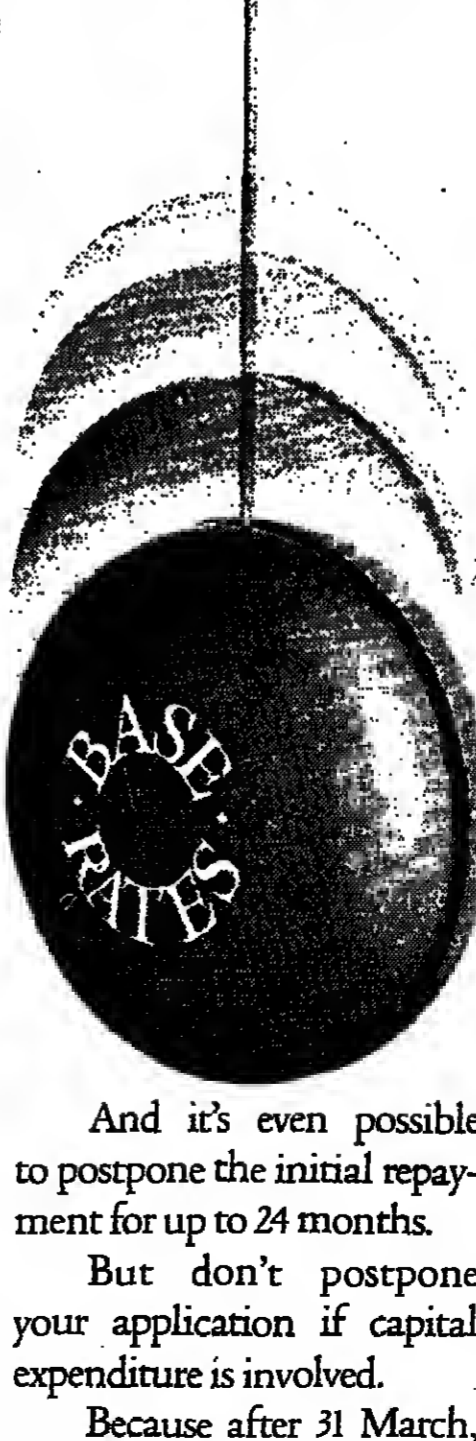
The key to your problem is the Lloyds Bank Business Loan.

To start with, it offers you a choice of fixed or variable interest rates.

And every 5 years, you will have the unique opportunity to switch from a Base Rate linked loan to a fixed rate loan. Or vice versa.

The loan can cover any amount from £2,000 to £500,000.

And any period of time, up to 20 years if need be. You can make repayments either monthly or quarterly.



the rate of tax allowance is being somewhat reduced.

So all in all, our Business Loan must be the most flexible loan afforded to our business customers.

You'll find we don't just stop at loans either.

In fact we have prepared a Business Facts File that outlines many of the varied services at your disposal.

You can pick one up from your local branch or by completing the coupon.

At Lloyds Bank, we want your company to grow as much as you do.

Form with fields for Name, Position, Address, Postcode, and a checkbox for 'I am not a business customer of Lloyds Bank at this branch'. Includes the Lloyds Bank logo and 'SFF/12'.

A THOROUGH BRED AMONGST BANKS.

When details are available from Lloyds Bank Plc, 7 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS. Securities may be equities. Loans are at the Bank's discretion.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, High, Low, Share Price, Dividend, Yield, etc. Lists various companies under categories like DRAPERY AND STORES, ELECTRICALS, BUILDINGS AND ROADS, etc.

Weekly Dividend. Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £30,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table for Weekly Dividend with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Total.

BRITISH FUNDS

1985 High Low Stock Price Chgs % P/E

Table listing various British funds with columns: Name, High, Low, Stock Price, Chgs, %, P/E.

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table listing short-term investments with columns: Name, High, Low, Stock Price, Chgs, %, P/E.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing medium-term investments with columns: Name, High, Low, Stock Price, Chgs, %, P/E.

UNDATED

Table listing undated investments with columns: Name, High, Low, Stock Price, Chgs, %, P/E.

INDEX-LINKED

Table listing index-linked investments with columns: Name, High, Low, Stock Price, Chgs, %, P/E.

BREWERIES

Table listing brewery companies with columns: Name, High, Low, Stock Price, Chgs, %, P/E.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table listing bank discount companies with columns: Name, High, Low, Stock Price, Chgs, %, P/E.

Record extended

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Feb. 10. Dealings End Feb 21. Contango Day Feb 24. Settlement Day, March 3. Forward Bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies like Cable & Wireless, Cambridge, etc.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under BUILDINGS AND ROADS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under FINANCE AND LAND.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under FOODS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under CHEMICALS, PLASTICS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under CINEMAS AND TV.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under DRAPERY AND STORES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under INDUSTRIALS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under A - D.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under ELECTRICALS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under E - K.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under INSURANCE.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under LEISURE.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under M - Q.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under R - T.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under U - V.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under W - Z.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under L - R.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under S - Z.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under M - Q.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under R - T.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under U - V.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under W - Z.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under L - R.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under S - Z.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under M - Q.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under R - T.

THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000 Claims required for +39 points. Claimants should ring 0254-5327.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under OVERSEAS TRADERS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under PROPERTY.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under MINING.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under SHIPPING.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under SHOES AND LEATHER.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under TEXTILES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHERS AND.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under TOBACCO.

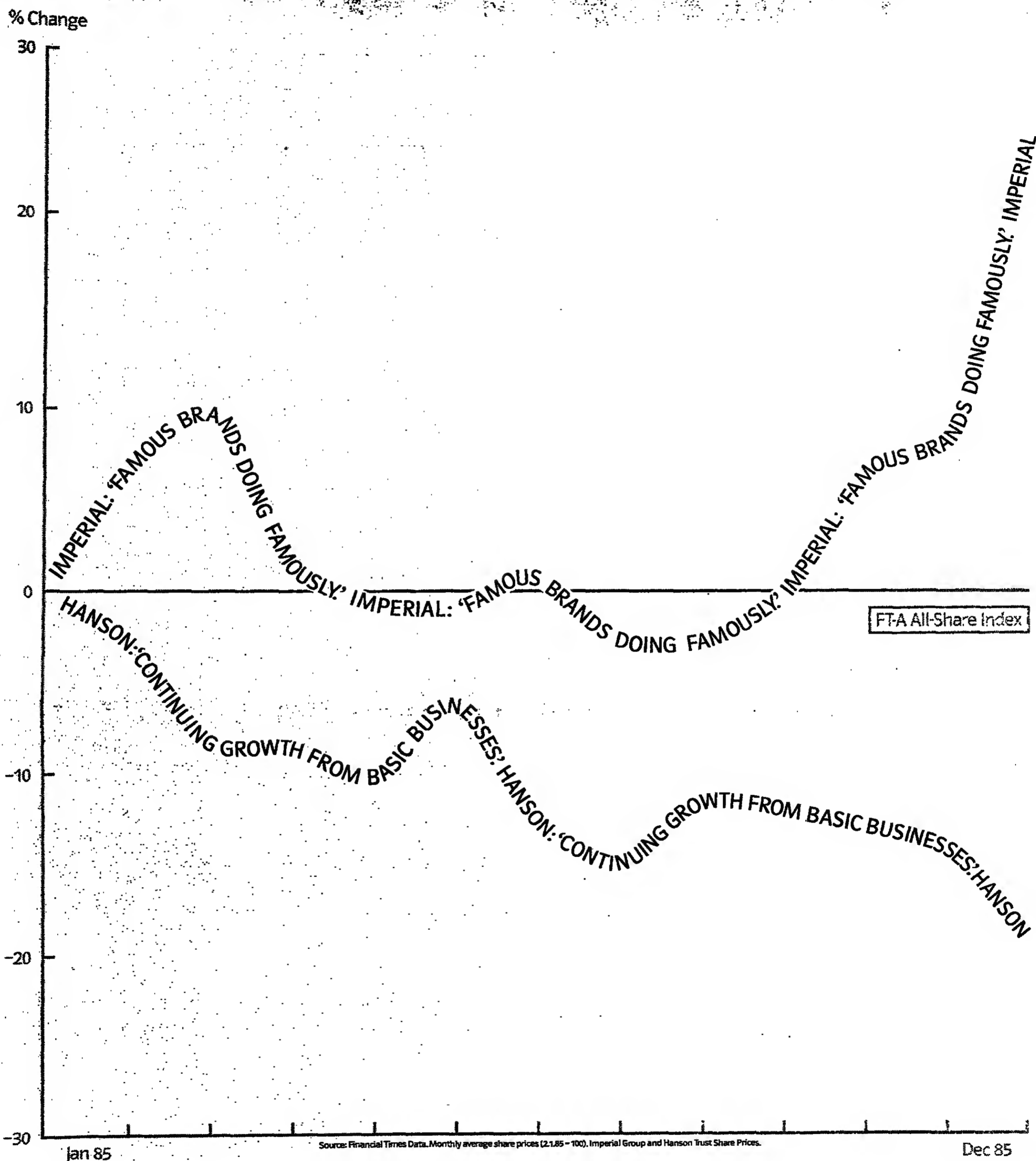
Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under OIL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under OIL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, % P/E. Lists companies under OIL.

© dividend © Ex alt Forecast dividend © Consolidated price © Interim payment © Price of share © Dividend and yield © Share price © Payment in £ for company © Pre-merger figures © Forecast earnings © Ex-capital dividend © Ex rights © Ex scrip © Share split © Taxation © Price adjusted for late dealings. No significant data.

سكنا من الأصل



You may have wondered why Hanson's share price so dramatically underperformed the market in 1985.

Could it be that investors have come to realise that Hanson's growth is dependent on successively larger acquisitions?

That 77% of its companies are operating in declining industries?

That the current trading performance of

most Hanson companies is at best pedestrian?

That Hanson plans to issue another massive amount of convertible to take over Imperial?

That this would result in Hanson convertible accounting for nearly a third of all UK convertible issues?

Or is there something else we don't know?



The sources for the information contained in this advertisement are set out or referred to in the letter from the Chairman, Imperial Group plc to shareholders dated 16th January 1986. The directors of Imperial Group plc (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed are fair and accurate. The directors accepted responsibility accordingly.

Building a future out of history

Walk out of York Railway station into the relatively new 'cocoourse' and the visitor will be confronted by a splendidly appointed 19th century railway signal. It has a momentary appeal, a symbol of the city's heritage as a railway centre — George Hudson's ambition was to "Mak'all t'railways cum t'York" — but the inquiring mind will come to wonder whether it represents something more.

Does it signify the downline to a city ineluctably enshrined in the richly warm embrace of its heritage or could it signal the upline of a York heading towards the 21st century?

John Cairns, the city's young and bustling chief executive, encapsulates the dilemma. "Ask most people about York and they will talk about the Minster, the Romans and the Vikings. But ask them about the future and there will be long silences.

That is why the city is trying hard to attract new industries and commerce to underpin its cultural tradition; marrying, to paraphrase its new slogan, history and technology.

There have been several home truths which have turned the city in this direction. One of them was when one of the top five employers, who between them provided nearly a third of the employment to the city's 60,000 workforce, closed, causing the loss of several hundred jobs.

It was a glassworks, which has been pulled down to build a new hotel. While the foundations were being excavated the remains of an Anglo-Saxon settlement were discovered whose potential richness is still being examined with every anticipatory scrape of the trowel.

The discovery caught the York Archeological Trust un-

aware. "We knew there was a settlement somewhere but we hadn't anticipated it would be located in that part of the city," said Peter Addymao, the trust's director.

It has been discoveries such as these, like the Viking settlement off Coppergate, turned into the latest jewel in the city's crown — that helps to attract visitors, now approaching three million each year.

York people, it has to be said, have an ambivalent attitude towards visitors — "tourists" is a nasty word.

This does not mean there is an open hostility to the tourist, although at the height of the season there can be a covert frustration. But how

There is a need to attract more industry

can antipathy, be long-lived when tourism provides 5,000 jobs — that is 8 per cent of the working population, making it the city's third largest employer — and is worth nearly £50 million a year?

York, in recent years, has been developed to meet the needs of the visitor. New hotels (some of which have already added extensions), more parking areas (although still not enough) and a range of shopping facilities undreamt of a decade ago have now been provided. Five years ago there were about 135 hotels and guest houses, the number now is approaching 180.

The city has been transformed commercially. The small business entrepreneur has turned his terrace house into a bed and breakfast establishment and, in a prime site like Stooogate, a pedestrian precinct through which the visitor can wander on his way to the Minster, property

is changing hands at very high prices.

A building bought 10 years ago for £36,000 was sold recently for nearly £1 million. It is a figure outside the resources of the local entrepreneur. Property in the city centre is being bought by pension funds and rented with an average yield of about 4.5 per cent.

Tourism has helped to cushion York from the worst excesses of the recession; with unemployment at 11 per cent, the city's jobless total is below the national average. But as Mr Cairns points out, that in itself is not satisfactory nor reason for complacency. There is a need to attract more manufacturing industry to balance it with the service industries.

There is controversy about how the city plans for the future. Not surprisingly the Chamber of Trade and Commerce wants more effort put into tourism. It has proposed an initial £250,000 a year co-partnership scheme with the City Council, the bulk of the money coming from council grants.

The council has said no, coming up with the idea of a special study on tourism, the two bodies sharing half the £25,000 cost of the study. The businessmen, in their turn, have said no.

The issue remains a matter of debate. Meantime the council is increasing its drive to encourage more industry into the area. York Enterprise Limited, a joint venture of the city council and the private sector, has set up office above the local gas showroom recently, with a £250,000 investment fund to help encourage new industries, and the expansion of businesses.

The council is also likely to adopt a £500,000 Employment and Development Fund — but it is not going to be easy to attract inward investment as York does not have the advantage of falling within a development area.



George Hudson, the railway pioneer, and the towers of York Minster, the familiar city skyline

It began with chocolates and railways

A national need for locomotive transport and a worldwide desire to gratify a sweet tooth provided the foundation on which "modern" York has grown. It was a railway centre and a confectionery city long before it became a tourist trap.

Two people are largely responsible: a wheeler-dealer called George Hudson who pioneered the railways, and philanthropic Joseph Rowntree who developed the chocolate industry. In the latter context it would be an omission to leave out another Joseph, Terry, who had begun turning cocoa and sugar into more edible products long before his rival.

Mr Hudson was in fall from power because of dubious business methods before Rowntrees appeared on the scene, but the city has capitalized richly upon their legacies.

York station has presided over the changing railway scene, from sedate Victorian splendour to today's high-speed trains, just as Joseph Rowntree's heirs have devel-

oped and expanded the manufacture of chocolate products to a £1,000 million turnover.

It was an off-the-cuff remark by R A Kaner, chairman of Rowntrees United Kingdom confectionery division, that caught the flavour of the two industries — or rather brought them into juxtaposition — when he was talking about the stability of chocolate products. Britain.

What better way to pass a train journey than with a cup of tea and a chocolate bar

apparently, has been consuming chocolate at the rate of seven ounces a head a week for the past 50 years.

"But it is understandable", he said. "It is an easily accessible food. What better way of helping to pass a train journey than a cup of tea and a bar of chocolate."

It has been good for the railways, too. One of York station's biggest freight customers is the confectionery industry. Although all products do not go by rail, 80,000

tons of bars, chocolate boxes and those mints with a hole in them leaves the Rowntree factory each year. The smaller factory of Terry's, now part of United Biscuits, produces 19,000 tons.

The railways and the confectionery manufacturers are the big cogs in the city's economic wheel: combined they provide about 30 per cent of York's employment.

But the numbers are out as

protected because BR is producing multiple units in York, about 250.

But as a railway centre it brings visitors to the city in their thousands. It is estimated that about two million passengers came to York by rail last year. In the past 18 months there have been more than two million inquiries at the station's new travel centre.

But there is more to York business than railways and chocolate. The Shepherd Building Group started as a York family concern nearly a century ago. It may not be a household name, but what Rowntrees is to Kit-Kat and Terry's is to Old Gold, Shepherd's is to PortaKabin and Portasilo.

It was the Shepherd company, which employs about 2,000 people locally, which restored York Minster to the late 1960s and early 1970s as well as building York University.

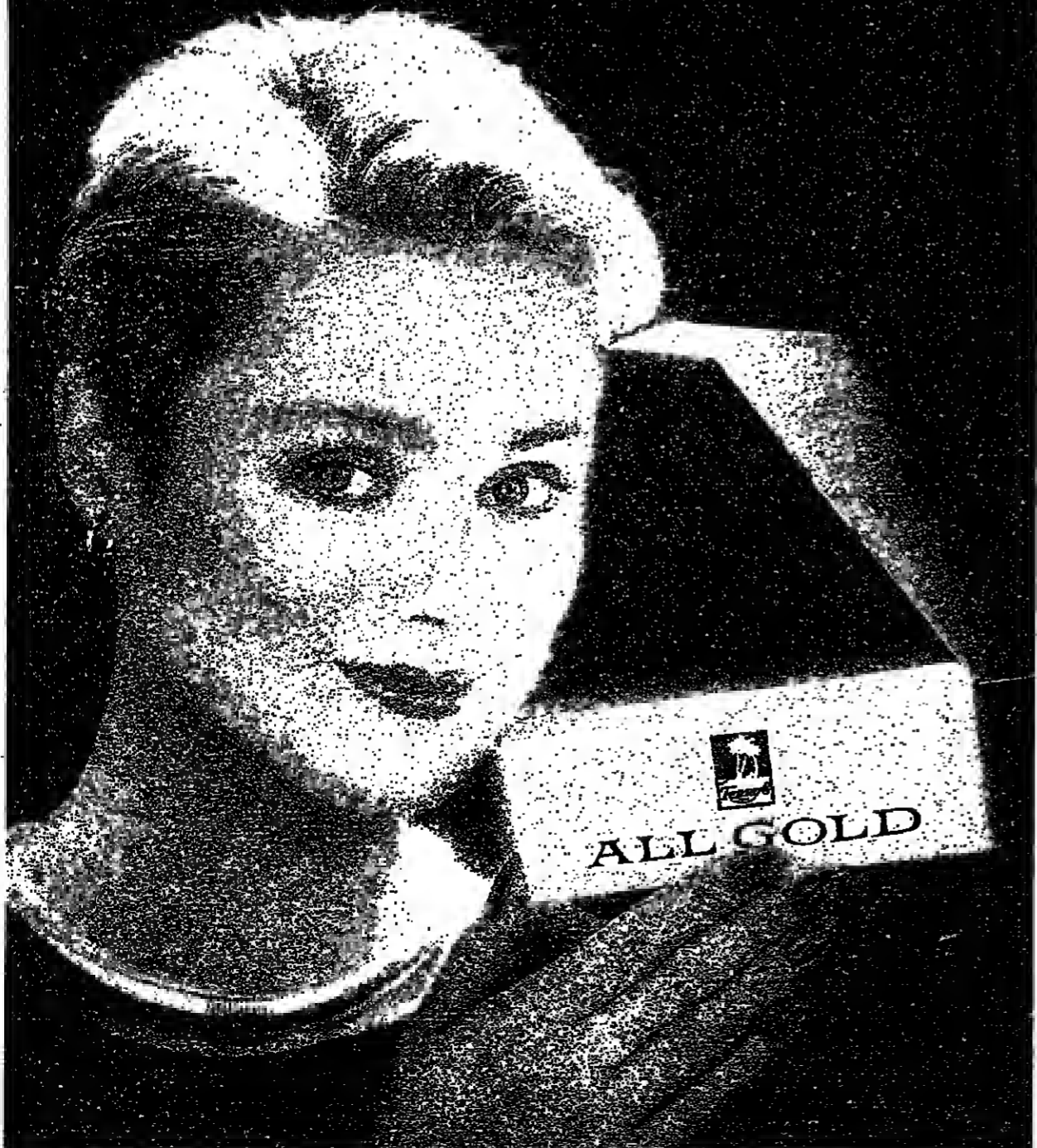
But these industries — and those like Ben Johnson's which print telephone directories and mail order cat-

alogues, or Vickers Instruments which produces gunights and range-finders for armoured vehicles as well as micro-measurement systems for the Japanese video industry — are not enough to keep York afloat economically.

That is why the city started on a huge programme of marketing itself as an ideal area in which to set up new technological-based industries. It is a strategy that began three years ago when the future of York was the central argument in the political battle for control of the City Council. It ended with a hung council but there are elections again this year.

It has brought about a more flexible policy for the release of land for industrial and commercial use. It is projecting itself to potential industrial and commercial developers the city, with financial help from neighbouring councils, is considering doubling its 1984-85 marketing budget of £60,000 in the coming financial year.

The Golden Touch



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Where the York story comes to life

Four-hundred years ago, worthy citizens of York sent a petition to the Lord Chancellor, protesting at the threatened demolition of Clifford's Tower which stands on a mound out far from the River Ouse. They complained they would have "no other building for show of this city save of but only the minster and the church steeple if the said tower be pulled down".

Much has come and gone since, some rediscovered. For the casual visitor the best place to start is the Heritage Centre, a former medieval church which houses the "York Story".

Opened 10 years ago for European Architectural Heritage Year, 1,000 years of the city's history is shown through models, reconstructions, audio-visual displays and tapestries.

Round the corner is the Jorvik Viking Centre, and beyond Clifford's Tower is the Castle Museum, possibly the finest and certainly the largest folk museum in the country.

A bone of contention between the Viking Centre and the Castle Museum when the centre was being built, was that construction workers found a superb helmet, dating back to the first Viking attacks. The centre would have liked the prize exhibit for itself, but the City Fathers wanted it to be displayed in the Castle Museum. The centre settled for a hologram.

The magnificently restored helmet is now on show — one of scores of exhibits in museum based on the private collection of Dr John Kirk (1869-1940). While visiting patients in North Yorkshire, he realized that a way of life was vanishing with the advent of mass-produced goods and began collecting

articles from the house and on the farm.

Out of that collection, the Castle Museum grew, and has long been one of York's showpieces. A more recent attraction is the 18th-century Fairfax House. Owned by York Civic Trust — its chairman John Shannon has been indefatigable in his personal drive to preserve the city's heritage — the restored house has a unique collection of Georgian furniture, paintings and porcelain.

At the other end of Coney Street, one of the city's main shopping thoroughfares, are the Museum Gardens, a 10-acre park, in which is sited the Yorkshire Museum. This houses an array of five Roman, Anglo-Saxon, Viking and Medieval treasures.

Last year, the "Roman life" galleries were opened, displaying carved statues, tombstones, wallpaintings, mosaics, a Roman kitchen, gold and silver jewellery. This summer, a natural history exhibition, so disappearing wildlife is to be mounted.

Over one million visitors a year go to the National Railway Museum. Not far from the railway station, it displays the spectrum of railway heritage from the earliest horse-drawn carriage vehicles to the Advanced Passenger Train. It is a living museum in the sense that sometimes its locomotives and rolling stock take part in passenger-carrying operations for BR.

And it would be unforfeitable to leave out the 17th-century Treasurer's House, its 20 rooms lying in the shadow of the Minster; the Merchant Adventurers' hall, built in the 1350s; and the City Art Gallery which houses European and British paintings spanning seven centuries, including the Lyett Greco collection of Old Masters.

York is indulging in one of its periodic celebrations; a Viking festival, an event with everything from processions and folk dancing to battle displays and a Grand Viking Beard competition.

In a city where every effort is made in the search for more information about its past, similarly no opportunity is passed over to commemorate what is known. The discovery of a Viking settlement seven years ago was not only an archaeological sensation but, later, a tourist money-spinner. The city is a treasure chest.

When I lived in the city, a wall of my bathroom had to be left untouched because parts of it were of Roman origin: when the floorboards in a bedroom were lifted to be replaced with new wood, a medieval well filled with non-stagnant water was discovered.

The organization largely responsible for unearthing the city's treasures is the

Inside the treasure houses

York Archaeological Trust. The redevelopment of York in the 1960s could have threatened the unique strata of the city's history. The trust was created to stem the tide of thoughtless destruction.

Since its inception, the Archaeological Trust, which has a permanent staff of 30 field officers, researchers and conservators, has carried out more than 30 major digs and many more minor ones.

It has also undertaken nearly 200 "watching briefs" on sites where excavation was impossible or unnecessary. And when it does become possible there can be a gnawing frustration as well as excited anticipation.

An illustration is the extension of the nursing home near the Minster. The trust was given only three months to carry out explorations before building began. It is



On the rails: The National Railway Museum attracts more than a million visitors a year

In pursuit of excellence

Two miles south-east of the city centre a relatively new tradition has grown — the pursuit of educational excellence. York University was opened 22 years ago and it can claim to have met the standards laid down by its first vice-chancellor, Lord James of Rusholme.

Professor Bertick Saal, an economic historian and present vice-chancellor, is determined to maintain the tradition even though he is having to live through financial constraints. Staff losses are inevitable but ways are being found not to damage the student-staff ratio, so much a part of the university's academic structure.

But the university grants committee has been told that the university's presentation of a series of roughly balanced budgets should not lead to any misunderstanding as to the enormous effort and strain that the cuts imply.

Since its inception, the university has given great emphasis to small group teaching. "It is this that has contributed enormously to our

success in attracting students," says Prof Saol — a justified claim if you look at its under-graduate performance indicators alongside the national average.

While it has successfully moved in the direction of science in the past five years, it still maintains its strength in social sciences and the arts. To destroy this balance would erode areas on which it has built a reputation. The university campus is in Heslington: its centrepiece an enormous man-made lake, complete with ducks, geese and wildfowl, and dominated by the huge central hall, multi-purpose concert hall, examination centre and meeting hall.

There has been a conscious effort to generate a community spirit which appears to have worked. There are 3,600 students — 2,800 under-graduates and 700 graduates.

It is earning a growing reputation in biology, chemistry, electronics and computer sciences; in the social sciences, archaeology, English and music.

tions of a vacated glassworks where it expects to find the site of a 13th-century Gilbertine Priory, the home of the only monastic order founded by an Englishman.

Peter Addyman, director of the trust, treats his job as a "privilege". What he and his team are undertaking is in the strictest sense of the word, a revelation.

Money pours in for the Minster

York Minster sits over the centre of the city with a maternalistic benevolence rather than paternalistic pride. To live within its shadow is to be envied; to visit it is a delight, for some an emotional inspiration.

Beneath its high vaults there can be found a rare religious and cultural experience: the quality of music and singing captivate the ears, while the scale of architectural and artistic endeavour absorbs the eyes.

The tourist may rightly shudder at the knocking of a hole through the south aisle to give access to the Minster bookshop, or the recent decision to charge £1.50 a head for visiting tourist parties. But God has to coexist with Mammon.

The Dean, the Very Rev John Southgate, would not demur at the description of religious and secular sense. He says: "The Minster is part of the community. It is a place for worship and a place for celebration and commemoration. The Minster is very much part of civic life and both are fulfilled."

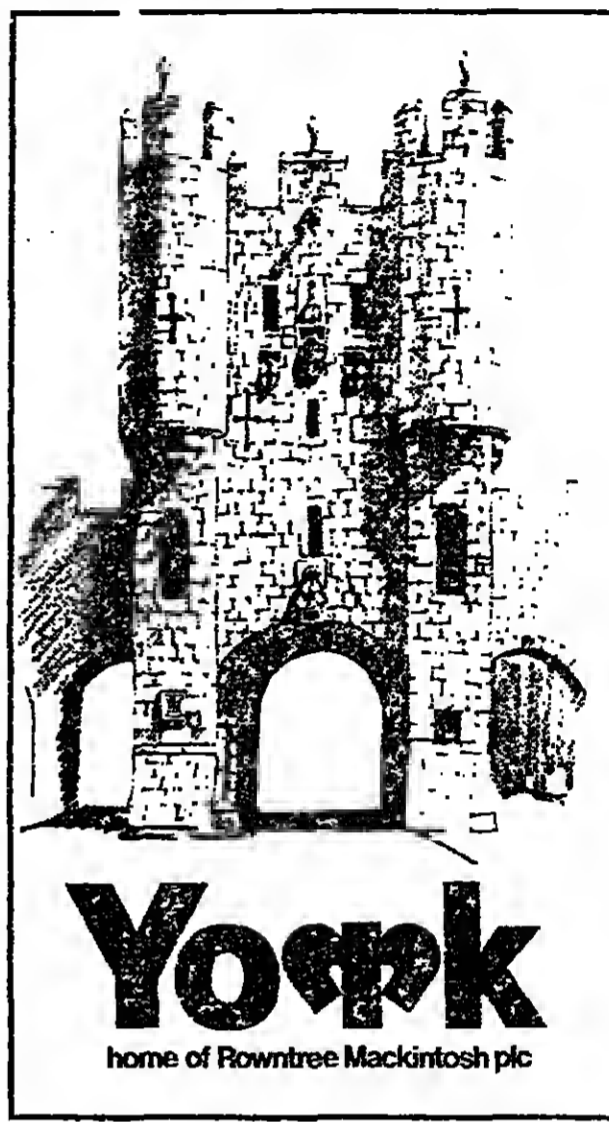
presented with a unique opportunity: the chance to inspect at eye level some of the restored panels of the Rose Window, whose glass was cracked by the heat from the burning timbers.

The window commemorates the cessation of the Wars of the Roses when Lancastrian Henry VII married Elizabeth of York in 1486, an anniversary which was not overlooked last

month when dignitaries from the towns of both counties congregated to celebrate the occasion. It was another example of the civic event.

Fires apart — over five centuries the Minster has suffered two even more disastrous occurrences — the Minster has had to undergo a £2 million major surgical operation between 1967-72 to restore falling foundations. And the savages of time and weather mean the cathedral spends £2 a minute to replace the deteriorating fabric.

And throughout all these vicissitudes, the Minster has maintained its character, a demonstrable renunciation of Ruskin's dictum that "restoration is a lie". There have been other Minsters on the site: Anglo-Saxon, Norman parts of which can still be seen in the Crypt and new Gothic. It is irreplaceable.



York's greatest tourist attraction

As for the charge on those coach parties to be introduced next year, the dean explains that there has been a misunderstanding. The initiative was taken to meet the complaints of tour operators and to introduce what he called a "regime" to avoid inequities of voluntary donations and undue waiting.

But casting Mammon aside, the Minster is York's greatest tourist attraction. More than 2½ million people visit it each year. The appalling fire in the roof of the south transept 18 months ago attracted worldwide, let alone the nation's, interest and sympathy.

Money has been donated from all over the world — £50,000 has been spent on new lightning conductors and offers of oak trees to replace the burnt-out roof trusses have come from all over Britain.

New masonry, 150 tons of limestone, carved and shaped to the Minster's own work-shops, has been put back to replace the damaged walls.

And in one way the visiting public has been

unspoiled by heavy industry and urban gear, your families will love the area, with its quiet harbours and fashionable spas. The unique blend of quiet country towns and bustling modern centres like York and Harrogate. The attractions of high quality schooling and sensibly priced quality housing. Add to all this the vast open spaces for leisure and pleasure and you'll find it a combination hard to beat.

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Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS

Run the business for under £100

By Mike Gerrard

At the recent Amstrad Show there was a fair amount of software for Amstrad's £459 PCW 8256, and much of it even for sale, as opposed to "Can I take your order, sir?"

The only game you'll find for the PCW yet is Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (Softsel, £24.95) though several other Infocom adventures are said to be just about ready at a price of £19.95, like Zork I, suitable for those who like processing words the adventurous way.

Book-keeping to bank and VAT

Their 'Popular' Accounts package shows a typical pricing of £99.99 and provides an all-in-one book-keeping job, right through to bank and VAT reconciliations and trial balance.

A similar range of accounting programs at similar prices is available from Camsoft (0766-831878), the only difference being that you can also buy these programs in separate units, such as one for invoicing, another for sales ledger etc.

systems disc, have so far produced four further items for the machine, all at the increasingly familiar price of £49.95. DR Graph and DR Draw allow you to produce bar graphs, pie charts, flow charts, and business logos, while DR offer a Pascal and a CBasic Compiler, too.

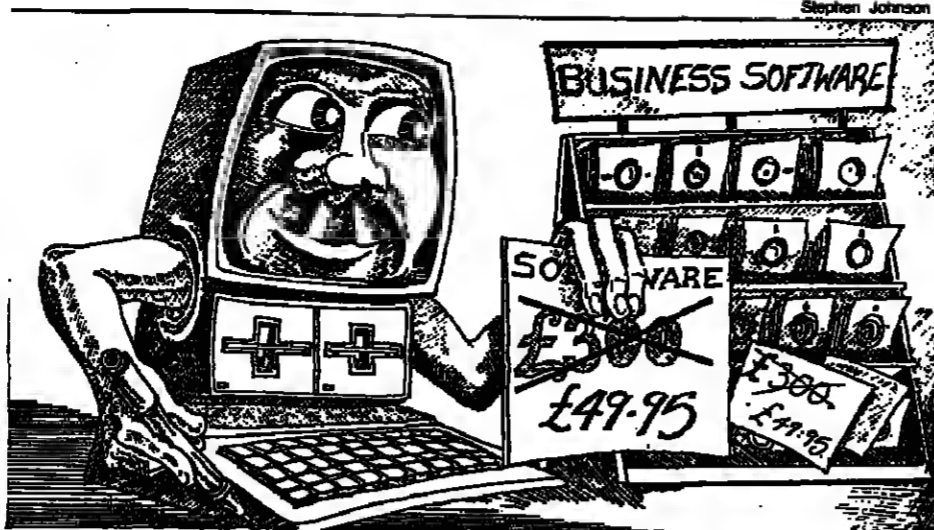
Hi-Soft (0582-696421) also provide a Pascal, as well as a version of C, both at £39.95, and a couple of handy programs at £12.95. The Torch is a CP/M tutorial and disc management system combined, and The Knife is a disc sector editor.

Most actively involved in the provision of software for the PCW is William Poel, ex-Amstrad and now in charge of NewStar Software (0277-213218). "We have literally some 8,000 CP/M programs available that will actually work on the PCW. It's just a case of transferring them over to a 3-in disc if anyone wants them."

For word processing we offer NewWord, which will do things that LocoScript won't do, like a spelling check and mail merge and that's £69, which is £130 cheaper than the PCDOS and MSDOS versions.

"I think this pricing policy will ultimately affect the industry generally. What software houses have been doing till now in their pricing is providing built-in customer support and relying on so-called training schemes for corporate users, whereas the Amstrad user is likely to be the small business owner who will want to and will need to discover the ins and outs of the machine and the software."

Other software now available for the PCW includes familiar titles like Supercalc2 and Brainstorm, both £49.95, and Cardbox at £99.95. In the four months that the PCW has been on sale, the promised serial and parallel interface allowing you to connect the machine up to other printers has appeared from Amsoft, and Amstrad dealers are offering the second disc drive of 720k capacity for £159, with on-site fitting if required.



Keyed in for high City salaries

By Matthew May

Computer staff with the right experience are beginning to get highly attractive job offers from companies in the City as firms prepare for the deregulation of financial services in October.

In just the same way as their financial counterparts have already discovered unusually high salaries, cheap mortgages and company cars are being used to try to attract the limited numbers of specialists that have computer experience applicable to finance.

With sophisticated computerized information systems seen as a major weapon in the battle to win customers after the Big Bang, even relatively junior analysts are receiving pay offers well over £20,000.

As well as skills in computerized stockbroking and dealing, expertise in communications, local area networks and office automation are heavily in demand from companies in the financial sector that have always been seen as offering the most

lucrative sorts of employment package even before the deregulation era.

Poaching staff from existing and potential rivals can have added advantages for the new recruit if he or she knows how their former employers are gearing up for October.

Financial institutions are often notoriously secretive about the details of their computer systems, usually on the justification of avoiding fraud, and some computer consultants are finding they are more liable to lose staff than win new business as the companies involved believe the work is too commercially sensitive to place with outside firms.

According to the recruitment agency Computer People, business analysts with computer skills who were earning an average of £25,000 a year are now receiving offers up to £40,000. While contract rates for highly qualified staff have risen from £600 to £750 to £1,000 per week.

A brighter outlook

Companies that specialize in providing services to the computer industry seem to be an optimistic lot. In a survey of 133 companies in the field by the Computing Services Association none believed that business would worsen over the next year. Ninety three per cent believe that business will improve, while only 7 per cent foresee their business remaining the same.

Common applications include standard blood and urine tests for pregnant women and tests on patients with hyperactive thyroid glands.

Profits leap

Compaq has announced a profit of \$26.6 million for 1985 on sales of more than \$500 million. Sales increased 53 per cent over 1984 and profits jumped by 106 per cent.

"Profitability increased for the third straight year setting corporate records in all categories," said Compaq's

president, Rod Canon. The company can afford to be pleased as the results are outstanding for a year when many other computer hardware businesses were reeling from the recession.

Your rights

A free booklet called Data Protection and You has been produced by chartered accountants, Binder Hamlyn, which outlines the main features of the Data Protection Act. It explains the rights the Act gives individuals and describes the legal obligations it imposes on employees.

Practical hints are included to help those who handle personal data minimize their own personal liability under the Act. 01-363 3020.

Hi-tech launch for industry

There is little hope of British manufacturing sustaining the economy in the long term unless it embraces computer-integrated manufacturing technology (CIM).

This stark warning was given by Sir Henry Chilver, Vice-Chancellor of Cranfield Institute of Technology, speaking at the launch of a £3.6 million project to establish an institute of computer-integrated manufacturing to help industry adopt it.

Computer integrated manufacturing links together all the computerized and automated elements of a company's manufacturing operations into a single integrated system. The CIM Institute is being set up by Cranfield in conjunction with IBM and aims to be self-supporting within three to four years.

It will offer graduate and post-graduate training, plus extensive short course training facilities for management. It will be an independent educational charity, and work closely with CIT's College of Manufacturing.

An optical break

The ability to put documents into a computer without having to rekey them into a terminal using an optical character reader is largely the province of fairly large companies which can afford the several thousands of pounds most such systems cost.

At the bottom end of the scale is the ill-fated Oberon Omnireader - the company went into receivership last November. Its product was eminently affordable at

around £700 but suffered from slow entry requiring an operator to scan each line separately.

Now London based Southdata Technology is claiming "a breakthrough in optical character recognition" with a new typewriter priced at £25,000. Southdata says it will read virtually all type faces in use for bulk text, dirty type and lines at reasonable random angles.

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Race is on for the fastest and cheapest

Recent disclosures by top American computer experts indicate that the race is on to develop the world's fastest and cheapest supercomputer.

Last week researchers at the American General Electric laboratory in Schenectady, New York, were preparing plans to develop what could be deemed to be the most powerful computer in the world. So are researchers at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in Pasadena, California.

They are developing models which will allow complex calculations to be done simultaneously by interconnecting microcomputers.

The revolutionary GE computer, called the Cross Omega Connection Machine, will have 256,000 processors or microcomputers connected to each other. The GE design is expected to be used by the American armed forces in weapon systems both on the ground and in space.

The concept, originally devised at MIT and disclosed in the magazine Nature, last November, will require a new approach to computer science - the mathematics that control how the machine responds and the languages that will be needed by the users.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

The computer scientists at Caltech have joined the race to develop advanced computer architecture. They are pursuing two distinctly different approaches to the subject. The first approach is based on traditional silicon technology.

Microcomputers are interconnected as if they were positioned at the corners of a cube. This "Cosmic Cube" approach, developed by the Department of Computer Science led by Charles Seitz, has proved highly successful.

The first machine based on that architecture was developed about two years ago. It had a tenth the computer power of the Cray 1, one of the most powerful computers in the world, but at about 1/100th of the cost.

A second generation machine had one third the power of a Cray but at 1/20th of the cost. A new super machine will be built in the next few weeks which could revolutionize computing and dictate the pace for further research.

This machine is to be built for \$0.5m, less than a tenth the price of the Cray. Caltech is taking another approach to supercomputing and is attempting to discover the secret behind associated memory - the method used by the human brain who recalling information.

The cracking of that code is believed by computer experts to be fundamental in creating advanced computer systems with superbrains.

Who will win the supercomputer race is guesswork. What is clear is that the manufacturers are also interested in producing commercial versions of these supermachines soon.

The multimillion dollar GE project will probably have its first home in a military base but the price of microchips is dropping so dramatically that these superdesigns might soon be available off-the-shelf and at low cost.

The supercomputer race is on.

The life-saver in your pocket

By Peter Parson

A thin plastic card costing less than £2 could soon start saving lives in Maryland. The credit card-sized piece of plastic is an optical storage device which can hold up to 800 typewritten pages of patient information - enough to store a patient's complete medical records. And the card can "speak" for patients too ill to speak for themselves.

The Lasercard was developed by California-based Drexler Technology, which supplies photo and optical products for the manufacture of semiconductors. Its optical card business should overtake its other products by the end of this year, with projected sales of \$15 million.

The medical application is being carried out by Lifecard International, a subsidiary of Blue Cross of Maryland, part of the US's leading private health organization, with more than 86 million customers.

The Lifecard system also requires a card reading and writing device and a computer-equipped with special software. It has developed three software packages to run on an IBM or compatible personal computer, allowing information to be retrieved from and recorded on to the card.

The packages, which are designed for use by a general practitioner, a hospital and a clinic respectively, are priced, but a complete package with reader/writer, PC and software should be under \$3,000.

The development of specialist packages is also being considered for gynaecologists and psychiatrists. Blue Cross has placed an order for 60,000 card reader/writers worth \$40 million over five years.

Other applications envisaged include the storage of X-ray pictures and automatic translation, which will allow a French doctor to read in his own language a card written in English, for example.

The company estimates that 15 to 30 X-rays could be stored on a single card. X-rays of particular importance or ones which are frequently referred to such as chest X-rays could even be stored on a patient's card.

Like many conventional optical disc storage devices, Lasercard stores data as pits burned into an active layer by laser. How that active layer works is a carefully

guarded secret by Drexler which received \$3.2 million from Blue Cross as well as a \$500,000 licence fee to start production of Lasercards.

Drexler has also invested a further \$30 million in development and production facilities. It plans to start full-scale production soon at its Californian plant. Plants are also planned for Japan, Europe and the east coast of America. Each will cost about \$25 million and have a capacity of 40 million cards a year by 1991.

Advantages claimed for Lasercard over magnetic or smart card alternatives include:

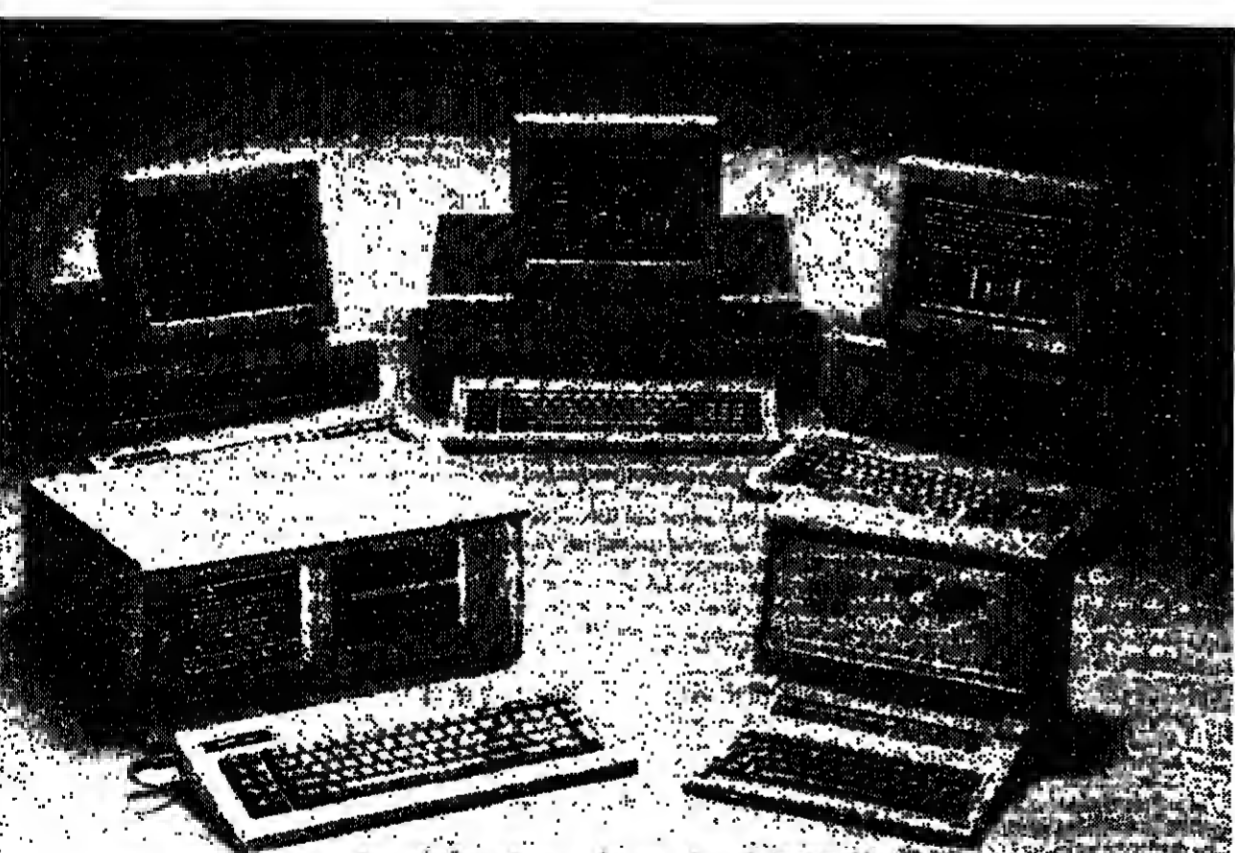
- A storage capacity of two megabytes, which is said to be 1,000 times the capacity of the magnetic strip on a credit card and 30 times that of the memory chip in a smart card.
- Durability.
- Difference in cost. Magnetic cards cost 20 cents per thousand bytes and smart cards 15 cents per thousand bytes. Lasercard is one tenth of a cent per thousand bytes.

Non-medical applications looked at include placing a complete car service history on to a card. "It gets rid of the centralized database and puts people back in control of their files," said John Meindl, managing director of Lifecard.

In particular, Lifecard is developing a card aimed at carrying records of employees in the nuclear industry. Called Newcard, it can carry a full history of an employee's exposure to radiation, training details and access clearance. Mr Meindl is also considering putting data gleaned from scanning the human retina on Newcard so that it can be used as a high security identification card.

Apart from Lifecard, Drexler has a further 19 licenses to its technology. Publisher Robert Maxwell, for example, has commissioned STC to develop a read/write unit for Lasercard - one of the first applications is expected to be in scientific and technical publishing.

In Japan, publisher Gakkeo is using the card to distribute part-time job information among students. The idea is to get students used to the idea of using a Lasercard. A 4-megabyte version of the Lasercard is planned with Drexler confident that a 10 megabyte card is feasible - about 10 times the capacity of the best of today's floppy discs.



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CRICKET: BEST AND PATTERSON AMONG 13 CHOSEN FOR FIRST ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL

Two new names in W Indies party

From John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent St John's, Antigua

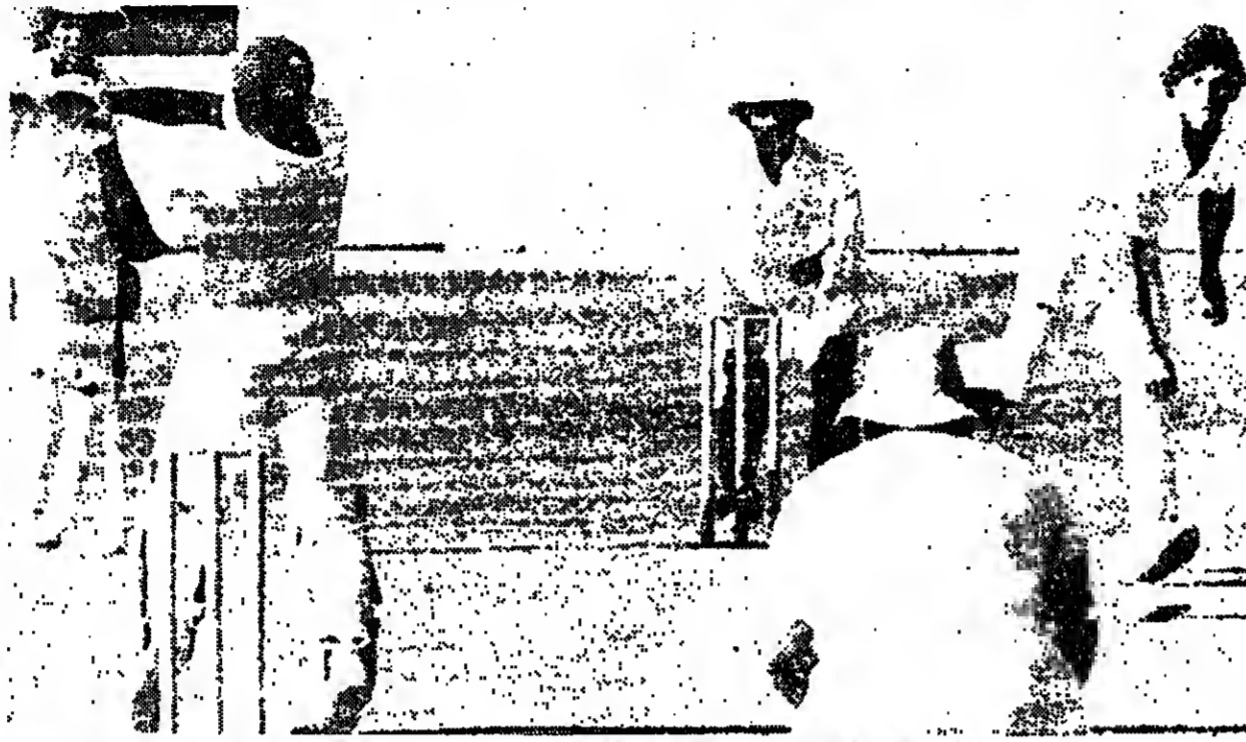
Whenever the name of a batsman from Barbados appears for the first time in a West Indian selection, it is as well to take careful notice. The chances are that he is something special, and that is what they say of Carlisle Best, who is one of two new names among the 13 players from whom West Indies will choose their team for the first one-day international in Jamaica a week today and the first Test match starting three days later. The other is Patrick Patterson, the Jamaican fast bowler who is currently the talk of the Caribbean.

Best is no infant prodigy. He will be 27 in May and has been playing Shell Shield cricket since 1980, two years after he went to England with the West Indies Young Cricketers. He captained Barbados in 1983-84 when they won the Shield and led them again in 1984-85. This season, as last, he has scored more Shell runs than anyone. He is of medium height and a stroke-player, who bats at No 3 for Barbados unless Haynes or Greenidge is missing, in which case he opens the innings. If Best wins his first cap next week, it is most likely to be at Logie's expense. If so, he will probably be at No 6 in the order. Like Richardson and Gomes, Logie is having a moderate domestic season; but because Best is having a good one, his inclusion in the 13 had been generally expected.

England in charge as Foster strikes

From John Woodcock

Pressing for the first victory of their tour, against the Leeward Islands, England captured three more wickets for 95 runs in the first two hours here yesterday. At lunch the Leeward were 233 for five, which gave them a lead of 54. The rhythm which Thomas had found on Sunday evening eluded him when he began the bowling yesterday morning. His length, line and pace suffered accordingly. In five overs he conceded 30 runs. It was now Foster who clicked. He bowled fast and moved the ball about in the breeze. After Embury had bowled Lewis, Foster removed Arthurton and Simon in the same over, his fourth in the innings.



Hooking up: Richardson is about to pay for his extravagance by being caught and bowled by Thomas

A broader view beyond the boundary

In the last of his many Press conferences of the past three months, Kim Hughes described the breakaway Australians' tour of South Africa as the happiest he had been on, and the most peaceful. In Pakistan and Gloucestershire — a senior batsman, bulging with muscle and belligerent intent. He holds the record for the number of runs made in a Shell Shield season — 576 at an average of 81 in 1983-84.

objections. Football is the Africans' sport. The chances of a Sowetan Sobers being unearthed are, alas, minimal. Of the handful of no-whites who play in the Currie Cup, none was even approaching consideration for the South African XI. Rice, the captain, would not countenance the selection of a non-white on cosmetic rather than cricketing grounds.

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Runs/Innings. Includes names like A. L. Kelly, R. B. Richardson, etc.

TENNIS

Satellite enters third orbit

By Rex Bellamy Tennis Correspondent

The men's satellite series organized by the Lawn Tennis Association moved into its third week at Telford yesterday. The next tournament will be at Queen's Club, West Kensington, and the 16 most successful players will then contest the concluding "masters" tournament at the David Lloyd club, Watlington, from February 24 to 27.

RUGBY UNION

Welsh count their wounded as Bath time beckons

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

London Welsh, drawn yesterday to meet Bath, the holders, in the quarter-finals of the John Player Special Cup, are still recovering from the rigours of last Saturday's four-round tie with Cornbarne. The Welsh, beaten by Bath in last year's cup final, ended the Cornbarne game with three injured players who are unlikely to be available against The Welsh Academicals on Sunday.

BOWLS

NZ players look to next year

By Gordon Allan

Some of the players in the Embassy world indoor singles championship, which ended at Coarbridge on Sunday, will come together again in a new event during the first week of April — the world indoor pairs championship. The venue is the Conference Centre at Bournemouth, equipped with the transportable rink used for the United Kingdom singles at Preston. Field and sponsors have yet to be announced.

BOXING

Jones will return to ring in March

By Srikumar Sen Boxing Correspondent

Colin Jones, the former British, European and Commonwealth welterweight champion, who has been out of action for 14 months, returns to the ring on March 19 at Alexandra Pavilion, north London. He is expected to fight against Tony Sibson, of Leicester, who has also been out for a similarly long period but made a spectacular comeback with a two-round victory over Juan Elizondo, of Mexico, last month.

ROWING

Race of the decade in prospect as crews take shape

By Jim Railton

The Oxford crew who will be seeking an eleven successive win in this year's Boat Race will include the oldest man ever to row in the event: Donald MacDonald, a 30-year-old Scot. MacDonald is two years older than Boris Rankov in his last appearance for Oxford.

The closeness in the betting suggests that Ladbroke's expect the 132nd Boat Race to be a close one. But much water will ebb and flow under Putney Bridge before the race itself. Oxford have only two Blues on board this year: they are Bruce Philip, the only oarsman to row for Oxford and Cambridge in a Boat Race, and the Wykehamist, Matt Thomas. Oxford's chief coach, Daniel Topolski, is disappointed that three Blues at New College — the oarsmen Jones, Clay, and Carledge — are not available because of academic pressures.

GOLF

The long and short of Langer's problem

From John Ballantine San Diego

Bernhard Langer may play the world circuit for the first 10 years, but he will never forget the play-off he lost here to Bob Tway in the rain-shortened San Diego Open on a Turnersque evening with the sun setting along the Pacific Ocean at Torrey Pines.

YACHTING

Beashel on form as rivals slip

From Barry Pickball Fremantle

Australia III, Alan Bond's latest America Cup defence contender, took control of the 12-metre world championship here yesterday with a convincing 1-0 victory over the seven-race series. As Australia III, skippered by Colin Beashel, swept to victory, its close rivals, New Zealand II and America II, were unable to break clear of the pack.

SPEED SKATING

Kania rules world

The Hague, Netherlands (AP) — Karin Kania of East Germany, on Saturday overwhelmed her opponents in the women's world championships, taking the title with victories in three out of four distances.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table listing various sports fixtures including Milk Cup, First division, Second division, etc.

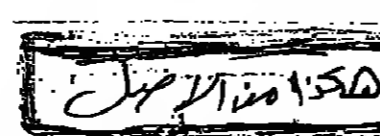
SNOOKER

Meo wants to get revenge

Tony Meo has a chance to avenge last year's defeat when he meets Steve Davis, the holder, in the semi-final of the Tolly Cobbold English professional snooker championship at the Corn Exchange, Ipswich, over 17 frames today (Sydney Friskin writes).

NZ appeal to London

Wellington (PA) — The New Zealand Rugby Football Union (NZRFU) are to ask the Rugby Council in London to overturn a decision in New Zealand which led to the scrapping of the All Black tour of South Africa last year.



PERSONAL COLUMNS

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC1
6.00 Ceefax AM
6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott
Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55: regional news, weather and traffic at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and 10.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. Junior Advice line at 7.32 followed by the adult version approximately an hour later; sport at 7.20 and 8.20; an overview of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus, Alan Titchmarsh with gardening advice and Lynn Christian with a recipe.

TVAM
6.15 Good Morning Britain, presented by Anne Diamond and Henry Kelly. News at 6.20; news with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.35 and 7.34; regional report at 7.15; cartoons at 7.24 and 8.02; pop video at 7.55; film review at 8.34; Moya Doherty's reunions at 8.45; Julie Brown interviews Fine Young Cannibals at 9.10.



Klaus Maria Brandauer: Quo Vadis? (Channel 4, 9.00pm). Centre: Ken Hutchison, Clare Higgins, Gabrielle Anwar: Hideaway (BBC 1, 9.30pm). Right: Marguerite Yourcenar, Arena (BBC 2, 9.55pm)



BBC2
6.55 Open University: Measuring the Earth and the Moon. Ends at 7.20
9.20 Daytime on Two: for the moderately mentally handicapped young adult 9.25 Spanish conversation 9.52 Maths: Fibonacci 10.15 Part 6 of The Boy from Space 10.38 The rejuvenation of a city's docklands 11.00 A visit to Evoston Castle Museum in Derbyshire 11.17 Drawing and painting colourful flowers and butterflies 12.00 Science: silicon chips 12.05 French conversation 12.30 Part 16 of a German conversation course 12.55 Ceefax 1.20 The French coast from Fecamp 1.38 Using maps and compasses 2.00 For four and five-year olds 2.15 A farm in a remote part of the Scottish Highlands 2.40 Science: patterns of growth 3.00 News summary with subtitles. Weather 5.35 Fast Forward: Video fun with the young, presented by Nicky Katt 6.00 No Limits: Jimmy Powell and Tony Baker report from Cardiff on the city's latest pop music charts 6.50 The Adventure Game. The ruler of the planet Arg is challenged to a series of tests of ingenuity by Joanna Moore and George Layton and Val Price 7.30 The Strange Affair of... The Old Straight Track. Robert Symes presents the sixth and last instalment of his famous mysteries and legends. The subject this evening is ley lines 8.00 Heroes: Eric Robson's first work of fiction is Tom Sawyer, deputy general secretary of Nupe. Among those he counts as heroes are Winnie Mandela's mother, footballer Duncan Edwards and Buddy Holly 8.30 Food and Drink. Resident cook Michael Barry dishes up some exotic pancakes; there is a holiday in flavourful tomato; and an investigation into where to get the best wine bargains 9.00 Take Six Cooks. The fourth series, meat, prepared by Peter Koffman of La Tante Claire in London. He makes poule au pot, charreasse d'agneau au persil and pieds de cochons 9.15 The Perfect Steak. How to illustrate how to cook the perfect steak (Oracle) 9.30 Quo Vadis? Part one of a three part adaptation of the celebrated novel by Hermann Hesse, to be shown on consecutive nights. Set in the year 63AD it chronicles the downfall of the mad and despotic Roman emperor, Nero. Starring Klaus Maria Brandauer, Max Von Sydow, Frederic Forrest and Cristina Raines. Directed by Franco Rossi 11.10 The Comic Strip Presents... The Champions Confrontation looms between the Slags and the Hawaiians (f) 11.40 The Machine. Episodes in the Machine. The series showing the best of bizarre videos. Ends at 12.30

CHANNEL 4
2.30 Film: Ghost Catchers (1944) starring Olsen and Johnson. A comedy thriller about a pair of rightish comedians who come to the assistance of two damsels in distress who have rented a haunted mansion. Directed by Edward F Cline 3.45 Years Ahead. The first of a new series of the magazine programme for the older viewer presented by Robert Douglas. With St Valentine's Day in the programme. The programme examines the problems of finding a partner late in life. Are dating agencies the answer? Plus, reports on sex and the elderly and the financial hazards of marriage or remarriage for pensioners 4.30 Countdown. Yesterday's winner is challenged by Algie Aspinall, a carpenter from Brighton 5.00 Bewitched. The eccentric Aunt Clara casts a wrong spell and Samantha's voice goes out of sync 5.30 As Good As New. The final programme in a series of films about the film's series designed to encourage those interested in repairing damaged or broken items 6.00 Pop the Question. Pop nostalgia quiz. The resident team captains, Chris Tarrant and David Hamilton, are joined by Mandy Patinkin, Hazel O'Connor and Tony Arthur 6.30 Danger Man. British secret service agent, John Drake, is sent to the Far East to investigate the mysterious death of a Chinese businessman 7.00 Channel Four News 7.50 Comment. With views on a matter of topical concern 8.00 The Question. A play by David Davout, a multiple sclerosis sufferer and campaigner for the disabled. Weather 8.30 The Women's Hour. Richard Briers (3) Burlesque and Breches (5) 7.00 News 7.25 The Archers 7.20 File on 4. The light by

Radio 4
5.55 Shipping Forecast 6.00 News briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming today 6.25 Privately for the day 6.30 Today, mci 6.30, 8.30 News 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament 8.57 Weather: Travel 9.00 News 9.05 Tuesday call: 01-580 4411. Myth, Legend and Romance. Judith Chalmers chairs a discussion with Sueczech talks about her favourite characters from fiction 9.15 Kaleidoscope, with Michael O'Keefe 9.45 At bedtime: 'But for Gertie' by David Hughes (7) Reader, Denis Lill 10.30 The World Tonight 11.15 The Incomparable 11.30 Today in Parliament 12.10 Open Forum: Students' Magazine 11.50 Why Study the State? 12.30-1.10 The World at One: News 1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News: Women's hour. Includes a report on readers aid to Sudan 3.00 News: The afternoon 3.15 The World at One: News 3.45 News: Financial Report 6.00 Ch. Yes it's History of... Les Sauvages de la furstenberg; Handel (music for the Royal Festival Hall) 7.00 News 7.25 The Archers 7.20 File on 4. The light by

Radio 3
6.55 Weather, 7.00 News, 7.05 Morning Concert: Berlioz 7.05 The World at One: News 7.15 The Archers 7.20 File on 4. The light by 7.25 The Archers 7.20 File on 4. The light by

Henriks (copano); Grenados (El Pele); William Schuman (News) 8.00 News 8.05 The World at One: News 8.15 The Archers 8.20 File on 4. The light by 8.25 The Archers 8.20 File on 4. The light by 8.30 The World at One: News 8.40 News 8.45 News: Financial Report 6.00 Ch. Yes it's History of... Les Sauvages de la furstenberg; Handel (music for the Royal Festival Hall) 7.00 News 7.25 The Archers 7.20 File on 4. The light by

Radio 2
News on the hour Headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 Sports Desk 1.05pm, 2.02, 3.02, 4.02, 5.02, 6.02, 7.02, 8.02, 9.02, 10.02, 11.02, 12.02. Charles Nove (5) 6.00 Ray Moore (5) 8.05 Ken Bruce (5) 10.30 Jimmy Young. Medical questions are answered by Dr Bill Downes 11.05pm David Byrne (5) 11.30 News 12.00 Closedown.

ENTERTAINMENTS
PRICE TICKETS FOR CHILDREN
ART GALLERIES
CONCERTS
EXHIBITIONS
OPERA & BALLET
CINEMAS

THE DRAGON'S TAIL
THE ROYAL BALLET
THE ROYAL OPERA
THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSES
THE DRAGON'S TAIL

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
SAC
GRANADA
CENTRAL
HTV WALES

TYNE TEES
SCOTTISH
YORKSHIRE
ANGLIA
GLENARRIFF
ROYAL OPERA HOUSES

